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Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i leaves after meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday. (Flash 90)

## PM involves appointments committee in CGS choice

**By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN**

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai have decided to refer the selection of the next chief of general staff to the Appointments Committee.

The committee was established following the Bar-On Affair last year in order to stymie charges of untoward motives in appointments.

The committee is expected to call the leading contenders — Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, deputy chief of general staff, and Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i, his predecessor — over the next coming days.

Mordechai said yesterday that he already had made up his mind as to who should get the job. While he didn't reveal who he chose, it was believed he gave the nod to Mofaz, a general he has been cultivating since he assumed the defense portfolio two years ago.

Netanyahu, who reportedly backs Vilna'i, intends to meet with both candidates for a second time when he returns from peace talks in London, Mordechai said.

Netanyahu met with the two generals separately yesterday,

following a meeting with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. It was the first time that Shahak has met with Netanyahu alone for quite some time.

Until now, Shahak said, neither Netanyahu nor Mordechai had "bothered" to ask him his opinion on who should be his successor.

"My decision of who should be the next chief of general staff is certainly made," Mordechai told reporters. "I will, of course, announce this at the meeting of the cabinet, which will decide who will be the next chief of general staff. I hope it will happen in the coming days."

According to the Basic Law: The Army, the defense minister recommends, and the cabinet approves the CGS. Mordechai and Netanyahu are slated to meet again later this week to settle who will take over from Shahak in July. It is expected that the decision will be brought before the cabinet next week.

"I think there have been a lot of needless voices heard," Mordechai told reporters. "The decision in the end will be made by those who have the authority to do so in a level-headed, wise way. No lobby will influence me in making the right decision, and they will be based on merit."

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon put out a statement to tone down the debate over the appointment.

"The appointment of the chief of general staff is a matter of defense and the prime minister and is not a matter for discussion in the cabinet," Sharon's statement said. "I have taken this position many times."

Those close to Sharon said he has refrained from getting involved in the fray over the next CGS and is urging others to behave the same way.

Benny Peled, former commander of the IAF, blasted the way the choice of the 16th chief of general staff was being made. Peled said it seemed like there was something unhealthy about the way Mordechai has been pushing Mofaz.

"Had the minister of defense said he had two candidates and when he made his decision he would bring it before the government, then everything would be correct. But he didn't do this," Peled said on Israeli Radio.

See CGS, Page 2

## As London talks begin PM, Arafat deadlocked on 2nd-pullback depth

**By DOUGLAS DAVIS  
and JAY BUSHINSKY**

On the eve of their separate talks with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in London, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat were entrenched in their positions yesterday, with the former standing by his refusal to relinquish 13.1 percent of the West Bank to the PA and the latter refusing to accept anything less.

Both leaders are meeting with Albright today in what has been billed as a last-ditch effort to break a deadlock in the peace talks.

The 13.1 percent formula was devised by the US in an attempt to prod both parties to emerge from a largely stalemated peace process and create new momentum as the Oslo-defined deadline for final-status talks approaches.

Diplomatic sources in London said they are cautiously optimistic that today's talks would produce results, since senior Israeli, Palestinian, British, and US officials would have been unlikely to stake so much prestige on a high-profile encounter if they were not reasonably confident of a successful outcome.

One source said agreement might



Arafat: More than an airport

be reached on the opening of the Gaza airport and the Karmi industrial park. But the source added that any agreement is almost certain to



Netanyahu: Limited mandate

park for several months, but declined to do so when he heard the US was planning to present its own proposals.

Not much progress expected, Page 2

contain a territorial component, linked to what was described as a "verifiable timetable of security compliance" by Arafat.

According to the source, Arafat has had the option of signing agreements for the airport and industrial

park for several months, but declined to do so when he heard the US was planning to present its own proposals.

It was more important for Arafat to heighten the sense of crisis and sharpen the impression that Israel was stone-walling in order to intensify pressure on Netanyahu to be more forthcoming on the territorial issue, said the source.

Arafat is therefore unlikely to walk away now with an agreement that is limited to the airport and industrial park without also securing an Israeli commitment on the territorial dimension.

Fears of a full-blown showdown between Israel and the US appeared

to recede yesterday, and an Israeli official said he was "quietly confident" that, while the result of the talks might not satisfy all the parties, a formula would be devised to allow the process to move forward.

Meisson Shorafa, political counselor at the PLO's permanent mission in London, said she is "optimistic... We would like a breakthrough rather than a breakdown. But we already compromised when we accepted the US proposal for a 13.1% redeployment," she said, "and we are not able to compromise further."

Interviewed on Sky television, chief PLO official in London Afif Safieh raised the diplomatic temperature when he heaped scorn on Netanyahu, describing him as a "pyromaniac on the powder keg," but noting that the Palestinians are still hoping for a breakthrough.

Washington's proposal for a 13.1% redeployment, he said, "is really the minimum that could be offered to keep the machinery going."

Netanyahu and Arafat, each accompanied by high-powered delegations, were expected in London late last night for what have been described as "make-or-break" talks with Albright.

See PULLBACK, Page 2

## Ministers attack Treasury stimulus package

**By DAVID HARRIS  
and Jerusalem Post Staff**

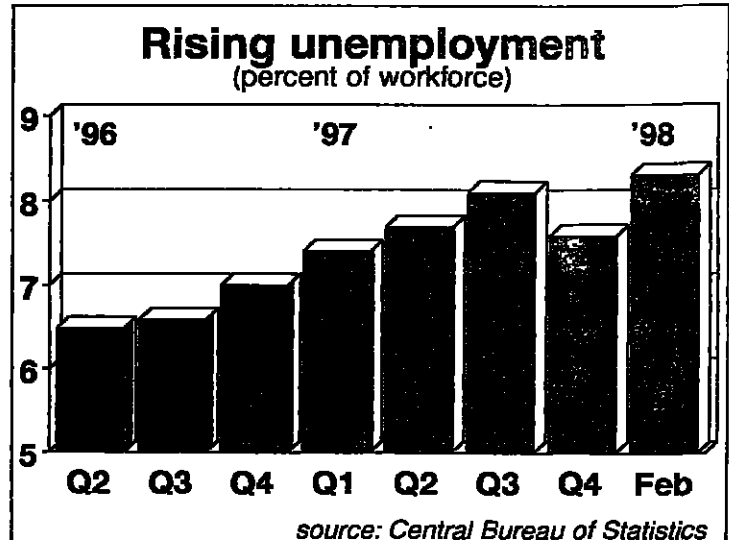
Cabinet ministers yesterday attacked a Treasury stimulus package aimed at jump-starting the economy.

The plan presented by Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman seeks to collect an aggregate NIS 1 billion from various ministries during this year and next by cutting 0.2 percent from each ministry's budget.

The sum would be spent on infrastructure development so as to moderate, if not reverse a trend of rising rate of joblessness which has risen to 8.3 percent of the workforce from 6% in 1996.

Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan said the package was an improvisation, stemming from the Treasury's failure to adequately forecast the economic slowdown.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said to oppose a proposed cut of NIS 47.238 million to



his budget.

Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein told reporters that while the program includes spending on physical infrastructure, it places absolutely no emphasis on training programs.

Edelstein is also demanding that the government fix annual targets in its battle to reduce unemployment.

Edelstein's Yisrael Ba'aliya col-

league, Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky, said the package fails to take industrial research and development into consideration, nor does it provide for industry expansion in development towns.

The plan aims to bolster the roads and rail infrastructure with a series of measures that would reduce bureaucracy and speed up construction on a variety of projects.

The key measures include:

- Constructing new roads and upgrading highways throughout the country, especially in and around development towns.
- Among the listed projects are roads in the territories, such as the Nablus bypass.
- Pressing ahead with rail development, particularly by building new stations alongside Tel Aviv's Ayalon Highway, and lines between Lod and Rehovot and Tel Aviv and Beit Shemesh.
- Distributing an additional NIS 10 million for tourist projects in preparation for an anticipated influx of visitors in 2000.
- Allocating additional funds to the Housing and Construction Ministry for the development of housing projects in development towns and less-affluent inner-city areas.
- Speeding up the introduction of legislation for taking away responsibility for water and sewage from local authorities.
- Removing bureaucratic blocks preventing the NIS 3b-plus expansion of the major ports at Haifa and Ashdod.

See TREASURY, Page 2

## Weizman: Government, organizers could have prevented dance-troupe brouhaha

**By ARNOLD DEAN COHEN  
and LIAT COLLINS**

President Ezer Weizman last night blamed the government and organizers of the Jubilee Bells show for the public row which has erupted over the Batseva Dance Company's decision not to perform its controversial dance following objections from religious politicians.

He also vowed to do everything possible to prevent a culture war from erupting between secular and religious Jews.

Weizman, who spoke in Tel Aviv, said that ministers and organizers of the Independence Day show should have checked more closely what they were including in the evening's repertoire.

The number, which includes the dancers undressing down to their underwear while the Pesach song *Ehad mi yodea* is played in the background, provoked religious politicians to fight for its deletion from the evening's program last week.

The troupe's subsequent refusal to perform has mushroomed into a major verbal brawl between secularist and religious figures.

MK Naomi Chazan (Meretz)

said she would introduce a bill this week entitled The Basic Law: Freedom of Religion and Conscience, which will aim to separate religion from state and

**A matter of tactics, Page 2  
Barak seeks secular-religious dialogue, Page 2**

ensure equal rights to all streams of Judaism in Israel "in order to ensure the Jewish pluralistic nature of the state."

Artists, intellectuals, and politicians from across the political divide continued to bicker about the issue yesterday.

MK Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) said he would do everything possible to prevent the

Batseva Dance Company from performing in the Knesset.

"They are not 'nebbishes' and they don't deserve a prize. It is a scandal," he said. Ravitz said the dance troupe turned the haredim into a laughing stock in the name of artistic freedom, as well as committing blasphemy by using a song with God's name in it. "No cultured country in the world would allow such a thing," Ravitz rejected the possibility that a possible interpretation of the piece is a criticism of youth abandoning cultural and religious values represented by the clothes they take off. "When you take your trousers off while singing 'God is one,' you don't need any extra interpretations," Ravitz said.

See WEIZMAN, Page 2

## Tsurif gang member gets four life sentences for role in 9 killings

**By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH**

The Lod Military Court yesterday sentenced Hamas terrorist and Tsurif Gang member Riad Abu Hamadia to four consecutive life sentences plus five years for his role in plotting and carrying out terror attacks in which nine Israelis were killed.

Hamadia, 22, was convicted of abducting and murdering IDF Sgt. Sharon Edri in September 1996 and planning and taking part in two drive-by shootings killing Efrat and Yaron Ungar on June 9, 1996 and Rahel, Ori, and Ze'ev Monk on July 26, 1996. Hamadia also planned and assisted in the bombing on March 21, 1997 at the Apropo Cafe in Tel Aviv. The bombing killed Anat Winter Rozen, Yael Gilad, and Michal Miron Avrahami.

Edri's sister, Sigal, said yesterday that the family was not surprised, but was extremely disappointed by the sentence and worried that Hamadia could eventually be released.

"Meanwhile he is laughing, he has no reason to regret his acts and he is perceived as a hero," she said.

Hamadia, who confessed to the charges, claimed he acted to protect the rights of Palestinians. His lawyer, Abed Asali, charged that the multiple life sentences were unnecessary.

"Tomorrow when the Israeli government sits with Hamas and solves the Israeli-Palestinian issue, I am sure he will be released," he said on Channel 1.

According to the charge sheet Hamadia was recruited to Izzadim Kassam in February '96 by Iman Mahmoud Kish. Other members in the cell included Jamal Alhour, Abed Rahman Ghanimat, and Musa Ghanimat.

Hamadia, from Jerusalem, took advantage of his Israeli citizenship

and the fact that he was permitted to drive a vehicle with Israeli license plates. In most cases, Hamadia drove the car used in the attacks.

On June 9, 1996, while he drove, Alhour and Abdul Ghanimat sprayed the Ungar's car with bullets. A month later, Hamadia asked Alhour to drive because he wanted to shoot. Three members of the Monk family were killed in this attack.

On September 9 the same year the cell members decided to abduct an IDF soldier to trade for Palestinian security prisoners. They noticed Edri waiting for a lift near Beit Dagan and offered him a ride. When Edri became suspicious, Hamadia fired three shots into his chest.

In March 1997, Hamadia drove Rahman Ghanimat to the Apropo Cafe, where Ghanimat detonated a bomb, killing himself and three women.





## NEWS

in brief

### Nude image of Rabin put on Dor Shalom door

Four photo-montage "pictures" of former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in the nude were posted on the entrance to the Jerusalem branch of the Dor Shalom movement last night. Police are investigating. The offices in the Talpiot section were firebombed on October 29. *Elli Wohlgelemer*

### 6 Lebanese injured in intra-Shi'ite fighting

Six Lebanese were reported to have been wounded in clashes between rival Shi'ite groups in the Ba'albeck region in the past few days. According to reports from Lebanon, four people were hurt in shooting between Amal supporters and Hizbullah activists. Two others were said to have been hurt in fighting between other Hizbullah activists and supporters of a breakaway group led by the outlawed former secretary-general of the organization, Sheikh Subhi Toufeili. The reports said the clashes occurred against the background of events to commemorate the Shi'ite "Ashura" - a holiday of mourning. *David Rudge*

### New peace group allowed protest tent in capital

The High Court of Justice yesterday permitted a new peace group to set up a tent near the prime minister's residence, "not to be critical of him, but to encourage him to make peace" while he is in London, according to former Foreign Ministry director-general David Kinche, one of the four organizers. The Peace Tent group set up camp last evening, after a day of court proceedings and negotiations with the city. The group of professors, writers, rabbis, and senior reserve officers "is a private initiative of concerned citizens, not a massive organization," said Prof. Dan Jacobson of Tel Aviv University, another organizer. *Elli Wohlgelemer*

### Shoval, Ben-Elissar appointments approved

The Foreign Ministry's appointments committee yesterday confirmed Zalman Shoval and Elihu Ben-Elissar as ambassadors-designate to the US and France respectively. Shoval will succeed Ben-Elissar as envoy to Washington. Ben-Elissar will take up his new post in Paris this summer following the retirement of Ambassador Avi Pazner. Among the other diplomatic assignments approved by the committee were: Yitzhak Oren, currently the Washington embassy's congressional liaison officer, as ambassador to Nigeria; Rafi Eldad, head of the ministry's information department, as ambassador to Peru; and Arie Tsur, from his post at the Vienna embassy to the rank of ambassador to El Salvador. *Jay Bushinsky*

### E. European diplomats to meet in Budapest

An unprecedented conference of Israel's 17 ambassadors to the nations of eastern Europe is due to open in Budapest on Wednesday under the chairmanship of Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Ben-Zur. The participants will include the envoy to Russia, Zvi Magen. Several of the Israeli diplomats attending are accredited to more than one country; the aggregate number of Eastern European states in which the invitees act as Israel's ambassadors is 30. *Jay Bushinsky*

### Haredi school vandalized in Safed

Anti-haredi slogans and swastikas were scrawled on the walls of Alsheikh, a haredi girls school in Safed. School officials found the graffiti yesterday morning and had it cleaned up before the students arrived. "It's frightening and disturbing that the incident against haredim has come to Safed, a quiet town known for the tolerance between all sectors of its population," said the school's principal Ruti Reibbo. *Im*

### King Hussein rebukes those against peace

Jordan's King Hussein rebuked hard-line political parties opposed to peace with Israel, saying they should respect the majority opinion. Hussein said yesterday that he always has accepted the opposition's right to differ. But at the same time "the prevailing opinion should be that of the majority, and the opinion of the majority should be respected," he said at a ceremony marking the 45th anniversary of his accession to the throne. With the Palestinian-Israeli peace negotiations deadlocked, many Jordanians have become critical of peace with Israel. *AP*

## Naveh denies having ministerial aspirations

By SARAH HONIG

Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh hotly denied yesterday that he is seeking the office of foreign minister. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman also denied that any such ministerial reshuffle is being contemplated.

This was prompted by a proposal which Ra'anana Deputy Mayor Uzi Cohen put to the Likud Central Committee, which convenes tomorrow.

In an official letter addressed to central committee chairman Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Cohen suggested that Naveh get the foreign affairs portfolio which was relinquished on January 1 by Geshar leader David Levy.

He also proposed that Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom be appointed finance minister in place of Yaakov Neeman.

It all might have ended there, had Cohen not announced that he had tacit approval for both his suggestions.

Naveh quickly acted to quash the rumors. "I have every intention of staying just where I am and continuing the work I am doing," Naveh said. "I am not looking for another job."

Uzi Cohen's proposals are his and his alone.

Netanyahu's spokesman Shai Bazak issued a similar statement, saying that there is no basis to the talk about a cabinet reshuffle.

The consensus in the Likud is that this is a non-starter and yet another manifestation of what many in the party call "Uzi Cohen's naughty politics." Likud pundits add that Netanyahu is hardly likely to sack Neeman, one of the ministers closest to him, and that he is equally unlikely to assign the foreign affairs portfolio to anyone. By keeping it in his own hands, he not only controls foreign policy, but keeps a seat free at the cabinet table, which offers him maneuverability and flexibility. He could use that seat, for instance, to expand his cabinet by coopting Moledet's Rehavam Ze'evi into the government.

A Moledet spokeswoman said that her party expects the negotiations on Moledet's entry into the government to resume "any day now." The prime minister's schedule was too busy in the past two weeks and the holiday events interfered as well. As is, there is no set date for the new round of talks to begin.

We deeply mourn the passing of our dear sister and sister-in-law

**MIRIAM KAPLAN** 57

bat Harav Avraham Chaim Sha'ag (Zwebner)

T'filot at 7 am and 7 pm

at 6 Rehov Mendele, Talbieh, Jerusalem

Rabbi Isaac and Rella Zwebner

# PA: Summit's fate in Israel's hands

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The Palestinian Authority placed the fate of today's London summit in Israel's hands and warned that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's refusal to accept a US proposal for a 13.1 percent withdrawal from the West Bank could lead to an explosion in the territories.

PA officials also sought to lower expectations that any breakthroughs would be made.

"The success of the talks in London will depend on the behavior of Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu because the problem does not lie with anyone else," PA Chairman Yasser Arafat told reporters in Gaza yesterday.

Arafat met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak before flying to London yesterday.

PA officials said that unless Netanyahu accepts the US bridging proposals Arafat would call for an Arab summit that could take dramatic steps against Israel.

They also warned of other serious repercussions if the summit fails.

"In case the London meeting fails," International Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath said, "Egypt and Jordan are committed to review the entire situation."

"They [the Israeli government] are dragging their feet and hoping somehow that the whole process will change," Shaath added. "If it will change it will be for worse not for better."

US Vice President Al Gore told

a news conference in Ramallah on Saturday after meeting with Arafat that progress had been achieved in narrowing the gap between Israeli and Palestinian positions on redeployment in the West Bank.

Arafat reiterated his endorsement of the US proposal. "We agreed to the American proposal from the beginning and we hope that it will be adopted in London," he said.

PA officials said they are hoping that a failure in London

would create a crisis between Israel and the Clinton administration. They hoped that a combination of a tough Arab response to Israel's refusal to accept the US plan and the embarrassment of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright being rebuffed by Netanyahu would lead to a reassessment in Washington.

While in London Arafat is also to meet with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the current president of the European Union.

## Israeli Arabs to mark Al-Nakba on May 15

By DAVID RUDGE

Israeli Arab leaders have scheduled a festival for May 15 to mark "Al-Nakba," which is Arabic for the catastrophe that befell the Palestinians in 1948 when Israel was founded.

The secretariat of the Israeli Arab monitoring committee decided in Shifaram Saturday night to hold the festivities at the site of Tsafiri, a village near Nazareth evacuated during the War of Independence.

Abed Imbitawi, spokesman for the forum, said there would be marches to the site, a photographic exhibit, a play, songs and speeches.

The main speaker is to be Ibrahim Nimr Hussein, chairman of the monitoring group and mayor of Shifaram.

"We expect at least 10,000 people at the festival which will also stress the vital need for a just and comprehensive peace," said Imbitawi.

Organizers also plan to produce a special booklet highlighting the events of 1948 from the perspective of Israeli Arabs, with emphasis on the abandoned villages.

"We have the feeling, especially at this time as the state is celebrating its jubilee and we are marking Al-Nakba, that peace is vital for both nations in order to cease the effects of Al-Nakba in the future," said Imbitawi.

"This can be achieved by the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel and by Israeli Arabs achieving full equality," he said.

The committee also called on people to visit abandoned villages to underline the "rights of the evacuees to be allowed to return to their former homes."

## Settlers threaten gov't over pullout

By MARGOT DUKKEWITCH

The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, along with the parliamentary Land of Israel Front, decided yesterday in an emergency meeting to threaten to topple the government if a second-phase West Bank withdrawal takes place.

"The last thing we want to do is make things more difficult for the prime minister, but if he is willing to undermine the security of the state then he leaves us without any choice," council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said.

According to Israel Radio, the decision was based on reports that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was considering an 11% withdrawal from the West Bank and had taken to London a map to that effect drawn up by the IDF Planning Branch.

On Saturday night council members sent some 1,000 letters to members of the National Religious Party calling on them to stand firm and "sustain the existence of the Jewish communities in the land we have inherited from our forefathers." The letter said the settlements would be surrounded by areas under Palestinian control and would eventually become part of the State of Palestine that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat has said he will declare next year.

## CGS

Continued from Page 1

Peled, who commanded the IAF during the Yom Kippur War, said there was no respect in the way the choice for the CGS was being made.

"I am disgusted by a lot of things in Israeli society, and it pains me to see that these things have passed into the army," he said. "Things have changed in the IDF, and it has turned into a public restroom where everyone is pissing on everyone else. And this is

## Not much progress expected at London forum

If US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright can wave her diplomatic wand and put her two Middle Eastern talking partners into the same room, London's quasi-summit certainly will be a media triumph that even may rate as a political breakthrough.

Short of that, Albright can try to nail down an agreement between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat on the Dahaniya airport at the southern end of the Gaza Strip and the Karni industrial zone on the Strip's eastern edge.

There is virtually no chance, however, of a deal on the main topic of the London talks: further redeployment of IDF forces in the West Bank.

Even if the secretary of state tries to pin Netanyahu's back

against the wall by publicly recommending that the IDF relinquish 13.1 percent of the area it controls in the West Bank and that settlement activity be brought to a total halt, she will not have transformed the current stalemate into a checkmate.

Netanyahu's media mavens ruled out any chance of his accepting the 13.1% pullback on the eve of his departure for London. And word went out simultaneously that he is not empowered to redeploy the IDF without obtaining the cabinet's prior consent.

At best, the prime minister can listen to Albright's arguments, consider her analysis of Arafat's position and promise to convey this information to all of his gov-

ernment's policymaking bodies, big and small.

If the 13.1% withdrawal was the overriding objective of US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk and State Department peace envoy Dennis Ross during the week they spent looking for a flicker at the end of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiating tunnel, they failed.

Nor did US Vice President Al Gore succeed in turning Netanyahu in the right direction from the American and Palestinian standpoints.

The prime minister's pre-departure call for compromise and flexibility referred to the airport and industrial zone, not the redeployment. On the latter issue, he is

holding to the cabinet consensus: 9% and no more.

As usual, however, the three principals and their host, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, will try to put a positive face on the London conclave, probably by looking ahead to the next major media event scheduled for the diplomatic arena: Netanyahu's trip to the US later this month.

There is a good chance, though, that Blair may steal the show by convincing his Jewish and Arab guests to respond to his warm-hearted hospitality by showing a bit of warmth toward one another.

And that's where the highly-symbolic, though totally unpredictable Netanyahu-Arafat rendezvous may occur. After all, if Jerusalem and Gaza no longer are acceptable venues, why not London?



German soldiers in Yad Vashem

In an unprecedented move the German army has sent 17 handpicked cadets to Israel for training. Led by Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Helmut Willmann the group yesterday visited Yad Vashem. Willmann said the program's main aim is bolstering military professionalism, as well as learning more about history. "The reason we begin with Yad Vashem is because it's a part of the history we have to know," he said. *(AP)*

## PULLBACK

Continued from Page 1

One senior British official said regarding the talks that "we are making it up as we go along. No one knows what's going to happen."

With Arafat under pressure not to capitulate by his Palestinian constituency, as well as by Arab leaders abroad, he is seen likely to seek the broadest possible diplomatic cover for an agreement.

The involvement of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, as current president of the European Union, would be seen as a significant achievement.

The three principals in the proximity talks will be based at separate hotels within a few minutes drive of each other in central London. Israel Embassy

spokesman Ron Prosor said Albright, who will be at the Churchill Hotel, will shuttle between the Grosvenor House Hotel, where Netanyahu is staying, and Claridges, where Arafat will be based.

The activities today - a public holiday in Britain - will start at 8:15 a.m., when Netanyahu arrives in Downing Street for a one-hour breakfast meeting with Blair. His departure will be followed some 20 minutes later by the arrival of Arafat.

The proximity talks will begin even before Arafat leaves Downing Street, when Albright arrives at the Grosvenor House Hotel for her first - and, so far, only - scheduled meeting with Netanyahu at 10 a.m.

That meeting is expected to extend into lunch, after which Albright will leave for Claridges

to meet Arafat at 2:30 p.m.

If there is a breakthrough and the parties reach an accord, the US Embassy will arrange a press conference, at which all the principals will meet the media.

Netanyahu left for London yesterday without a mandate from his cabinet to deviate from its decision on the retention of specified security zones in the West Bank and safeguarding the network of settlements there.

It was in that vein that Netanyahu reaffirmed his "insistence that Israel decide on the extent of the redeployment in accordance with its national security interest."

Barely 12 hours before, Netanyahu was at Ben-Gurion Airport for an unscheduled session with US Vice President Al Gore before his departure for Cairo. Gore briefed Netanyahu on

his talks in Saudi Arabia and especially his subsequent discussion with Arafat during which the Palestinian leader evidently held to his demand for a 13.1% pullout.

Immediately after his talks in Gaza with Gore, Arafat flew to Egypt for a meeting there with President Hosni Mubarak.

Attributing its information to unnamed "Western and Arab diplomats," Reuters said "Israel has told them privately it might hand over close to 11%" if the PA curbs Hamas and other Islamic extremists.

But Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Ilan, who traveled to London with him, said, "These are not interest rates that we are discussing, but chunks of land that are essential for our security, and the prime minister has reiterated over and over again that he will not do anything that would jeopardize Israel's security."

## TREASURY

Continued from Page 1

• Pushing for the immediate passage of a law creating a railway company responsible for issuing tenders for the construction of new lines and renovation of existing routes.

• Requesting the National Infrastructure Ministry immediately set aside land to develop 150 gas stations.

• Tightening up rules concerning the employment of foreign workers. Neeman said yesterday it is unacceptable that there are some 70,000 more foreign workers here than the number of unemployed

Israelis.

Of the NIS 1b. in state cash required, NIS 500m. will be spent this year, with the remainder being made available during 1999. Within this year's package, each ministry will be asked to cut 0.2 percent of its budget, which will fund NIS 500m. of the program.

There will be no increase in

the overall budget, Neeman pledged. "All credibility of raising capital is based on achieving budget deficit targets. This view was backed by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frankel during the meeting, the central bank said."

But he indicated that full-scale budget cuts are unlikely.

## WEIZMAN

Continued from Page 1

He said, however, there would not be a culture war. "The public is not stupid, and the public does not want a culture war. The people like its past and its Judaism," he said.

He accused politicians of trying to exploit the issue for their own purposes and said cultural establishments were exploiting the topic in a fight for more funds.

"The minute they see their funding has not been cut, they will calm down," said Ravitz, who is

chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee. "There will not be a culture war because it takes two for a war and we won't fight."

Education Minister Yitzhak Levy appealed to political leaders not to use the "unfortunate foul-up" that occurred to launch a Kulturkampf.

Interviewed on Army Radio about his run-in with demonstrators on Friday protesting the incident, and discussions he held with artists afterwards, Levy said the demonstrators had "every right to demonstrate, whistle, and shout. I have no problem with that. But who did not let [the Batshava

Dance Company] perform? Me? There was no ministerial intervention. There was a compromise presented by the president, [and] they didn't accept it."

"I am calling for tolerance and patience," Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said in a meeting with parliamentary reporters.

Regarding the calls by Labor whip Elie Goldschmidt to invite Batshava to perform in the Knesset auditorium, Tichon said the Knesset's culture committee will decide how to act if it receives a request.

Haim Sheppa and Rella Kaye contributed to this report.

דפוס 1350



## A matter of tactics

As the Jubilee Bells controversy continues to echo loudly, one thing is clear: the dispute surrounding the Batsheva Dance Company was the most authentically Israeli offering of all the official ceremonies marking the country's 50th anniversary.

The obvious idea behind Jubilee Bells was to find those elements in this super-contentious country around which everyone could rally. So we were treated to gala song-and-dance numbers saluting immigration, the IDF, the outdoor markets, kids, and Jerusalem.

Who isn't proud of the ingathering of the exiles, the army kids, Jerusalem? Even the shik. Everyone likes the shik. The idea was obviously to look for societal aspects and issues that unite — consensus issues. How worked up, for goodness sake, can people get about tomatoes?

But consensus is not Israel. Disagreement, arguments, principles — over principles — that is Israel. Although that aspect of the country did not come out in the carefully choreographed parts of the performance, it has come out with a vengeance. In bitter arguments that continue over the show.

It was as if the great Director in the sky looked at the original script of Jubilee Bells and said, "This sanitized program does not represent my country. Let me show you my country." And so the Batsheva Dance Company controversy was born.

Yesterday, following a well worn script, members of each side continued to barter themselves behind their lofty principles. The artists talked about the sanctity, even holiness, of artistic freedom; the religious talked of injured sensitivities.

A few saw the whole episode as just a really bad piece of judgment on the part of the jubilee organizing committee, which they claimed erred by booking such a controversial act. But these voices were few, and were drowned out by others who swore this was not an isolated incident. In this country there are precious few isolated incidents. Instead, everything has apocalyptic ramifications, everything is a "slippery slope" leading to the abyss. "Concern over the outbreak of a culture war," screamed Yediot Aharanot's lead front-page headline.

End-of-the-world scenarios have been painted around secular-religious conflicts for the last 100 years, according to Ben-Zvi Institute director Zvi Zamet, who headed a committee that hammered out a compromise ending

last year's haredi-secular battles on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan. These battles preceded the state with disputes on how to observe shmita in the Yishuv, and continued through the arguments over Shabbat transportation, archeological digs, bus stop shelters, and the Who is a Jew question, in all its various forms.

"All those issues were weightier than the one at hand," Zamet said, "and the world did not end, the culture war did not erupt."

There have always been extremes in society. But there was always a strong center that did not emphasize the extremes, looked for a middle path, and even ignored the extremes. The difference now, said Zamet, who described himself as a secular Jew, is that today we live in the "Popolitika Era" where the extremes are raised on high and given a voice.

"I have the feeling that the extremes we are hearing and reading about do not represent the truth," Zamet said. "We found a solution to Bar-Ilan. Both sides said a solution could not be found, and could not work. The fact is that reality is different — the majority want quiet." Despite this majority wish, Zamet said, the politicians and the press are interested in "sharpening the issues." As a result, the national center is shrinking and the extremes are gaining prominence.

The center still exists, according to Zamet, but its representatives are less frequently asked their opinions, with only the opinions that will underline the differences deemed interesting enough — or entertaining enough — for a hearing.

That situation is pregnant with danger, he said, because those opinions then seep down into the masses, "and the ramifications could be tragic." Rabbi Shmuel Jakobovits, head of Ura Kevod, a haredi think tank that studies contemporary issues, said that casting the most recent controversy in apocalyptic, hyperbolic terms shows "there is a deep mistrust of the two sides, a deep suspicion that results from the trauma of a conflict that touches on the most basic definition of our identity." Jakobovits said regarding the Jubilee Bells conflict, "My inclination is that we [haredim] don't need to react against every mocking statement against us, but should be busy with constructive business. I don't think we have to pick fights, and that it is wiser for our own purpose and for the health of the nation to ignore these matters. It's a matter of tactics."

## Barak plans religious-secular dialogue

By DAVID RUDGE AND SARAH HONIG

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said yesterday that he would host a "dialogue between religious and secular segments of society, to rescue democracy," in the wake of the row over Jubilee Bells.

Barak said he hoped the event did not mark the beginning of a "culture war" or a schism between the secular and haredi sectors that could not be bridged.

He said the Jubilee Bells controversy, in which the Batsheva Dance Company withdrew from the program after Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller protested against the immodestly dressed dancers' participation, was the result of "negligence and amateurism on the part of the organizers of the concert."

Barak, who visited Haifa yesterday, said everything possible must be done to prevent coercion on cultural matters in a democratic, open and tolerant society, while at the same time demonstrating respect for religion and tradition.

"I call for the opening of a dialogue between intellectuals, public figures, the religious and secular sectors in order to stop us, at the last moment, from a culture war," he said.

"I intend in the next week or 10 days to hold a meeting of people from all sides so that together we can find a way to deal with the compromise and unity that is so necessary to us."

Barak noted that he was working towards passing a law that would require haredim and yeshiva students to serve in the army or perform some type of national service.

"We don't have another country and everybody has to hold up the nation on their own shoulders," he said.

Barak also visited Amidar government housing in Haifa yesterday and expressed his support for the



Members of the Batsheva Dance Company rehearse for 'Jubilee Bells' at the Givat Ram stadium last week. (Brian Hendler)

sary to us."

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"We don't have another country and everybody has to hold up the nation on their own shoulders," he said.

Barak also visited Amidar government housing in Haifa yesterday and expressed his support for the

public housing bill.

Meanwhile, Former Labor secretary-general Nissim Zivili warned his party yesterday that it "must not get carried away and seek the tide of Meretz No. 2" in its reaction to the Jubilee Bells controversy.

Zivili said that Labor is "missing the point. The shrill outcry against the demise of democracy and the hysterical warnings about the imminent danger of a takeover by frenzied clerics is a leaf out of the

Meretz book and it is patently untrue.

"We don't want to sound like Meretz and we don't want to be led by them and follow their cues. We must not be identified by the public with Meretz."

The issue we should stress is the clumsy way this whole Jubilee Bells event was prepared and produced. This is a crisis that could have been easily averted with a little thought and foresight."

MK Ephraim Sneh had a similar message: "The Labor Party must not spearhead a senseless and damaging culture clash, which might well be unleashed upon us."

MK Haim Ramon said that the "issue of the Batsheva dance is not exactly the chief issue on the national agenda. It is not even the real problem. Labor would do better to consider a strategic decision about its attitude to the haredi community."

## Labor looks for top-notch vote-getter in TA race

By SARAH HONIG AND DAVID RUDGE

Last-minute efforts are under way in the Labor Party to find a top-notch vote-getter to vie against incumbent Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo (Likud) in the November elections.

The latest hopes are pinned on former Koor head Benny Gaon, who has yet to reply to the offer put to him by party chairman Ehud Barak.

Labor's candidate for the mayoralty of Tel Aviv will be announced in the next few days, or at least the process by which that person will be chosen, party leader MK Ehud Barak said yesterday.

Barak declined to reveal the names of leading contenders or his

personal preference.

He noted, however, that party member Ron Huldai, who is currently running as an independent, is among the contenders "along with others. The moment that Roni Milo breached the trust between us, we immediately decided to put forward a candidate to oppose him and head Labor's list," said Barak.

"We will see the results on November 10. I believe it will be the candidate we put forward [who will win]."

Labor's municipal campaign headquarters chairman Binjamin Ben-Eliezer said that "the answer [to who will be Labor's candidate] must come very soon. We will know where we are heading in the next day or two."

Labor has little time because the

candidate must establish legal residence in Tel Aviv by May 10. Gaon lives in Herzliya.

Labor has no problems about its candidate for mayor of Haifa.

Barak said incumbent mayor Amram Mitzna was the unanimous choice.

"I have known Mitzna for many years and I'm very glad that he will continue to run as mayor," said Barak during a visit to Haifa yesterday where he was hosted by Mitzna.

Barak said Mitzna was not involved in gimmicks, but deeds that were for the benefit of all Haifa's residents.

"I'm convinced that in a few more years when he completes his [second term], we will bring him into the national level," said Barak.

## Eitan apologizes for Peled anti-Rabin pique

By SARAH HONIG

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday apologized for the fact that his fellow Tsomet member, deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled, walked out of Independence Day festivities at his kibbutz, Beit Hashita, when the Rabin assassination was featured.

Rabin reacted to the incident angrily on an Army Radio interview yesterday morning, charging that "there is no limit to impudence. There is an attempt to make the public forget the assassination in all sorts of places and now a deputy minister, a kibbutz member, tries to do the same in the kibbutz movement."

She added: "I am sure that Eitan

does not agree with what Peled did and I expect him to reprimand Peled."

Upon hearing this, Eitan indeed phoned Rabin and told her that "Peled's conduct in no way reflects Tsomet's stand."

But Eitan apparently did not take Peled to task. In fact, Peled later said that he never "even talked about the issue with Eitan. Rafil did not hear my side of it before phoning Rabin. This is alright with me. It's his right to have his opinion. In fact, I did not so much as utter a single word against mentioning Rabin, but I thought that it would suffice to do so on the more somber eve of Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, rather than on Independence Day eve."

## PALESTINIAN PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

## Two jubilees

Israel's jubilee celebration was of major concern to the Palestinian press, whose main theme was comparing the Israeli celebration of statehood and the continuing occupation of the Palestinians. Cartoonist Khalil Abu Arafat designed a coin, on one side of which is the Israeli jubilee logo and on the other a Palestinian "50" Nakba (catastrophe) logo, designed in barbed wire.

In spite of its many achievements, Israel suffers an identity crisis, writes Ashraf Ajrami in *Al-Ayyam*, referring to the lack of equality of rights of Israeli Arab citizens. Ajrami describes the Israeli land laws, "which are wrapped in shining titles such as 'the Judatization of the Galilee,'" the absence of Arab culture in school curricula and "discrimination in other spheres of life." This identity crisis is expressed also in the religious-secular and Ashkenazi-Sephardi conflicts, as well as in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

"The peace solution creates an ideological problem for Zionism," writes Ajrami, and technological superiority "cannot protect the Hebrew state from danger." Peace with the Palestinians and becoming "a state of all its citizens" is a better and less harmful alternative for Israel.

## London talks

Preparing for the London peace talks this week, *Al-Quds* ironically asks: "Until when will the peace process continue to grind air? Mamdouh Nautal in *Al-Ayyam* is skeptical that these talks will be different than previous ones. There is no need for a genius to conclude that the circumstances which have paralyzed the Clinton administration during the last year have not and shall not change during a few days, writes Nautal.

It is impossible to reach any progress toward a political solution, writes Abdallah Aswad in *Al-Ayyam*.

The London meetings are the last chance to convince Israel to withdraw from its rigid position, states an *Al-Quds* editorial. The Arabs and the world have given Israel the chance to withdraw, thus none can blame the Palestinians for developments that might occur.

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## Ancient Nazareth graves buried in concrete

By DAVID RUDGE

The Antiquities Authority has protested to police after ancient graves near Nazareth were found buried under tons of concrete over Independence Day.

According to Dr. Zvi Gal, the authority's archaeologist in the North, two haredim were seen with

a contractor who poured the concrete onto the site.

Gal said the burial site itself, dating back to the Byzantine period, had earlier been unearthed and bones scattered during unauthorized road works in the area.

The Antiquities Authority issued an order preventing any further work in order to enable the burial

site to be excavated and human remains handed over to the Religious Affairs Ministry.

"Later, during the Independence Day holiday, a contractor escorted by two haredim covered the graves in concrete," Gal said. "The question is whether this is a respectful way to treat the dead by covering the remains in concrete."

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## Worldwide campaign to press for Arad's release as he turns 40

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Jewish pupils and students from Bombay to Belgrade will stage protests outside embassies and study sessions in schools tomorrow as part of a campaign demanding freedom for missing Israeli navigator Ron Arad. Arad's 40th birthday falls tomorrow.

The events, which will include a gathering at a Tel Aviv high school tomorrow with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, also will feature a protest tomorrow evening in New York City. Forty students will light 40 candles outside the UN.

There also will be a major gathering of Jewish youth group members in Paris's Trocadero Square, and demonstrations outside Iranian and Syrian embassies throughout the world. The aim is to raise the struggle for Arad's release in the consciousness of Jewish young people, Jewish communities and the world.

"It's a very unique occasion to show that there is some kind of mutual responsibility for Ron Arad," said Amos Hermon, co-chairman of the Jewish Agency's education department.

Agency chairman Avraham Burg

explained that Communications Minister Limor Livnat had approached the agency about a year ago. Livnat, who is extremely close to the Arad family, "asked the Zionist movement to do something about his situation," Burg said.

In a demonstration of the agency's commitment to this cause, Arad's mother Batya lit Hanukkah candles at the opening of the 100th Zionist Congress in December.

The agency then took on the responsibility of making support for Arad, who has been missing since October 1986, part of the agenda of Jewish schools and youth movements supported by the agency around the world.

Tomorrow marks the first time Arad's birthday will not be marked by just the family and his comrades, Burg said.

The joint campaign, which also will be on behalf of other IDF soldiers missing in battle, will run from kindergarten, where youngsters will be asked to produce paintings on Ron Arad, to the high schools and youth groups. Kits on Ron Arad and his situation were sent via the Foreign Ministry to schools and emissaries around the world.

In Washington, Jewish Agency representatives will be meeting with congressmen, telling them that any thaw in relations between Iran and the US must include Arad's release.

In the former Soviet Union, pupils will send letters and faxes to government leaders, asking them to intervene on Arad's behalf. In Zurich, pupils will circulate among local schools, showing a film about Arad to their non-Jewish classmates to teach them about Arad's plight.

Margot Dukkevitch adds: Members of the UK Campaign for Israel's MIAs today will present Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with a copy of a petition that they began circulating throughout Europe on Independence Day.

In addition to the first 1,000 signatures, they will give the prime minister a letter in which the Iranian Embassy in London claims to have no knowledge or information on Arad's condition or whereabouts.

The letter, dated August 22, 1994, but not made public until now, was written in response to a letter that the Betar Youth Movement's head office in London sent to the embassy asking for information on the whereabouts of Arad.

The embassy's letter states, "In accordance with the teachings of Islam, the Islamic Republic of Iran has consistently called for peace and peaceful coexistence for all human beings, and for the return of all POW's to their families... it must be pointed out that the Islamic Republic of Iran has no information about the condition or whereabouts of Mr. Ron Arad."

Campaigners plan to continue collecting signatures for the petition, which they hope to present at the final meeting of Britain's presidency of the European Union. The meeting is slated to be held in Wales in mid June.

The petition can be signed via E-mail (betar.tagar@ort.org) or the UK Campaign for Israel's MIAs website (http://www.britnet.org/mia/).

Activists in London also plan to join the worldwide campaign to mark Arad's birthday tomorrow. Forty activists will light 40 candles and four other activists will dress as soldiers and hold placards bearing the names of Arad and three MIA's missing since the 1982 Sultian Yacoub battle: Zecharia Baumel; Tzvi Feldman; and Yehuda Katz.



Protesters hold up signs saying 'Tzur Hadassah is not a Jerusalem neighborhood' and 'Annexation of Mevasseret is political violence,' outside the Interior Ministry in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Hender)

## Greater-Jerusalem opponents: Expansion proceeding despite PM's promise

By ELLI WOHLGELER

A few dozen demonstrators from Tzur Hadassah, Abu Ghosh, Mevasseret Zion, Motza, and Telshe Stone picketed the Interior Ministry last night, to protest a discussion inside on transferring control of planning and construction in Mevasseret Zion to the capital.

"We have a letter from Bibi [Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu] that there will be no

annexation of Mevasseret to Jerusalem," said Shmuel Sorek, head of the non-profit organization fighting annexation. "But here they are sitting and working out how to do it."

Jerusalem Mayor Olmert had told opponents of annexation that would be credible if they would "pull out their children from our schools, stop making a living at the expense of the city of Jerusalem, and cut their sewage

system and water system from the city."

Environment Minister and Tsomet leader Raphael Eitan yesterday said he opposes annexation westward, because this is environmentally and historically sensitive and should be decided at the regional and national levels. Jerusalem should be strengthened by expanding eastward, he said.

Liat Collins contributed to this report.

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# Bridge disaster overshadows World Maccabi gathering

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Colin Elterman, the father of Sasha Elterman, one of the athletes severely injured in the Maccabiah bridge disaster, yesterday disputed claims surrounding the incident and its aftermath being presented today by Maccabi World Union President Ronald Bakalarz in his report to delegates to the 23rd Maccabi World Union Congress, which opened last night.

The congress is convening through Wednesday at Kfar Hamaacabiah in Ramat Gan.

In his remarks, made available to *The Jerusalem Post*, Bakalarz says that in the opinion of MWU's lawyers, Yoram Eyal, who headed the organizing committee for the 15th Maccabiah, "was indicted due to the immense pressure brought upon the attorney-general's office by the Australian Jewish community, by some members of the families of the deceased and of the injured, and by a media campaign directed and funded by some of the above

against Maccabi World Union in an attempt to inflict damage upon our movement."

He adds that the lawyers claimed the police report did not recommend indicting Eyal.

Asked what was meant by a "media campaign," Bakalarz said yesterday that Elterman had placed a series of paid advertisements in the Australian press "in which he makes statements and accusations against members of the movement and the movement as such, and has quoted individuals out of context."

These ads were then circulated throughout the world, including in Israel, he said, and Eyal's attorneys feel this led to his indictment.

"Mr. Bakalarz slurs the Israeli justice system by suggesting that Mr. Eyal has been prosecuted because of political pressure," Elterman said in his rebuttal of Bakalarz's remarks.

"MWU should stop blaming the victims," Elterman added. "It should face reality and accept its role in the disaster. Only then will

it be able to start rebuilding its movement."

Discussing an MWU delegation's visit to Australia in February in his report, Bakalarz accuses Elterman and Adam Zines, son of Warren Zines, who also was killed in the tragedy, of "prompting" individuals to attend a meeting held with the delegation.

"Their behavior at the meeting was manipulative and outright discourteous," he says. "They and several of their followers were disrespectful towards us, making false accusations, citing statements out of context, and overall, hearing only what they wanted to hear, and not listening to reason."

However, Elterman, Zines and Elterman's attorney categorically denied this.

"Not meeting with him and bestowing upon him the honors to which he has become accustomed as president of MWU does not make our behavior 'manipulative,' 'discourteous,' 'disrespectful,' or our 'accusations false and unjust,'" Elterman wrote.

"Mr. Bakalarz asserts that the 'families,' the Israeli and world press, the Jewish community in Australia, Maccabi Australia Incorporated and even Mr. [Shimon] Peres misunderstand MWU's role in the disaster. The implication is that somehow one or two individuals from Australia [in between mourning and caring for their gravely injured family] have woven this tale of deception to destroy MWU."

"MWU has never accepted responsibility for the disaster. No wonder none of the victims' families, not only me, refused to meet with persons incapable of saying 'Sorry, we wronged you. Sorry for all the pain we and others have caused you,'" Elterman wrote.

Elterman pointed out that the Executive Council for Australian Jewry and the Zionist Federation of Australia, the roof bodies representing almost all of Australian Jewry, have asked Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon for an independent Knesset inquiry into the incident.

In the report, Bakalarz says that

in keeping with Maccabi Australia's wishes, the body's internal inquiry committee was expanded from three to six members, and a decision was made "to further expand its terms of reference to include all aspects related to the organization of the Maccabiah."

He said yesterday that Maccabi Australia had accepted the six names submitted to it by the MWU. He said he hoped the make-up of the committee would be completed today "and it can begin its work right away."

But in an open letter to the MWU delegates, Elterman, Zines, and the families of other victims asked for support for the independent inquiry, the resignations of any other senior officials the inquiry names, and "the sifting of a new clean, untainted MWU leadership with the families and their representatives to sort out proper compensation."

"It is one minute to 12 for the Maccabi movement. We pray you will act like 'menshen' and do what is right, just and moral."

## NEWS in brief

### Thai indicted for kibbutz woman's murder

Korba Sumbat, 30, a Thai national employed by Kibbutz Na'an, was indicted yesterday by Tel Aviv District Court for the rape and murder of kibbutz member Yamit Regev, 23, three weeks ago. At yesterday's hearing, Sumbat's remand was extended till the end of his trial.

Sumbat's attorney, Moshe Aloni, entered a plea of not guilty on his behalf, claiming his confession was extracted improperly. Sumbat reportedly told his investigators that Regev reminded him of another woman he had met here who had broken off relations with him. *Itim*

### Israeli, PA police on study mission in Germany

A joint delegation of the Israel Police and Palestinian Police left yesterday for a week of study in Germany aimed at increasing cooperation between the two forces. Delegation members are to meet with security experts and attend courses on riot control and illegal immigration. They are also scheduled to meet with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, other political leaders, and the heads of the Berlin and Bonn police departments. *Itim*

### US formally rejects extradition compromise

Prosecutor Irit Kaan has relayed a message from US officials formally rejecting a compromise suggested by a judge earlier this year over the extradition of an American teenager, accused of murder in Maryland. American officials already had made the rejection public.

Under the proposed compromise, the suspect would have returned voluntarily to the United States to stand trial and returned to Israel, if convicted, to serve his sentence.

The Jerusalem District Court is expected to rule on the extradition in September. *AP*

### Nationwide drive for 'Adopt a Soldier'

Members of 12 of the nation's youth group movements have begun a nationwide campaign to raise money for the Adopt a Soldier scholarship fund. Going from door-to-door, the youth will be seeking donations of between NIS 10 and NIS 50 or more.

Each year the nation's largest youth groups focus their efforts on a single theme. Last year it was road accidents, and this year it is support for IDF fighters. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

### Hadassah convention opened in Jerusalem

Hadassah International's 11th annual conference in Jerusalem began yesterday, with participants from 34 countries. Yesterday actress Rivka Michaeli, Ruth Dayan, Prof. Hadassa Degani and Pina Herzog all were presented at the Knesset with the Women of Distinction Award for their outstanding professional achievements by the Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization of America. Conductor Zubin Mehta was awarded the Citizen of the World Award last night by Hadassah International in recognition of his unique talents and for sharing them with many people worldwide.

A gala dinner honoring former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek is due to take place tomorrow evening at the Jerusalem Holiday Inn/Crowne Plaza Hotel. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

## Speaker expects hot Knesset session

By LIAT COLLINS

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon is predicting the summer sitting, which starts today, will be a hot one and is calling on party whips to try to keep MKs in control.

The plenum is scheduled to start with a vote on a no-confidence motion over the public housing bill. The motion was filed in an unusual step by the coalition as a parliamentary trick aimed at thwarting the bill. It is still not clear, however, whether or not this will come to the vote or some compromise will be found.

Other issues expected to immediately come up on the agenda concern the fallout of the Jubilee Bells celebration and the Patsy Dango Company, as well as the choice of the next chief-of-general staff, which will probably be raised during question time with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai today.

Apart from the secular-religious rift, high feelings are also expected in the House over the discussions on the second further redeployment.

Among the expected "highlights" of the summer sitting are the swearing in of President Ezer Weizman for a second term in office, the election of the next state comptroller on May 26, and a visit the same day by Speaker of the US House of Representatives Newt Gingrich and a large congressional delegation. Gingrich is expected to address the Knesset.

Tichon said he sees the visit as part of an effort to build closer ties between the Knesset and Congress and noted that so far no interparliamentary friendship society exists between Israel and the US.

Other visits are expected by the Australian Speaker and the Swiss president.

During the recess, renovations were carried out in the Knesset, the most obvious is a 700 square meter marble floor costing \$38 per square meter. Other plans include new chairs for MKs in the plenum.

The MKs will also apparently get a new large screen television. This should be installed in time for the World Cup in June, which Tichon noted could influence attendance in the House.



Jackie Barnett (right) and Lynn Green of the Chicago Jewish Federation's jubilee mission place stones on Yitzhak Rabin's grave during a visit to Mt. Herzl yesterday. (Brian Handler)

## Chicago Jews celebrate jubilee on mission

By ADRIENNE DRELL

More than 500 Chicago Jews went without home treats like deep dish pizza and spent the past week here celebrating the jubilee.

"The exhilaration started before I even arrived, and now that I am here I feel at home," said Adam Blonsky on his first trip to Israel.

The eight-day mission was part of a celebration mission sponsored by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Chicago (JUF).

The mega-mission was the brainchild and was to have been led by Barbara Hochberg, the first woman to chair the Jewish Federation and JUF in Chicago.

Hochberg died of cancer March 26, but her family decided to continue her work. Her husband Larry, their daughter Amy Lowenstein, her husband John and their son Andy Hochberg and his wife Laurie led the mission.

Over a few short days the 12 buses filled with the Chicagoans visited Latrun for a ceremony on Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, toured Jerusalem's Old City and had a gala observance of Independence Day with residents of Kiryat Gat.

The mission members traveled to Tel Aviv on Independence Day to relive the historic moment when David Ben-Gurion proclaimed the state and to enjoy a street fair and spontaneous dancing in front of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

They also attended the Jubilee Bells show in Jerusalem, visited Yad Vashem, Yitzhak Rabin's tomb at Mount Herzl cemetery and lit candles near the Western Wall for Kabbalat Shabbat.

(Adrienne Drell is a staff reporter for the *Chicago Sun-Times* who was reporting from Israel on the 50th anniversary celebration.)

## Kaplan doctors hold sanctions over violent patients

By JUDY SEGEL

All 350 physicians at Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot worked on a reduced schedule yesterday to protest patients' violence against them.

On Shabbat, a patient waiting impatiently in the emergency room punched a surgeon in the face and broke his nose when told a more urgent case needed attention first.

The doctor was admitted to his own surgery department for treatment and filed a complaint with police, who began to investigate.

The head of the Kaplan doctors' committee, Prof. Avraham Eliraz, said he and his colleagues would demand the permanent posting of police in the emergency room.

"There is near-violence every day, and there have been several cases of actual violence," he said. "There are security guards in the

hospital, but they don't arrive in time. We want policemen on duty here round the clock."

The attacker had been involved in an accident last week, and after undergoing treatment at Kaplan he returned two days later for a continuing problem.

He was examined by a doctor and asked to wait a few minutes. When an elderly man was rushed in with a life-and-death problem, he was asked to wait a bit longer," said a hospital spokeswoman. "But

he rushed up to the surgeon, and hit him so hard that he fell down with a broken nose. The patient was not drunk or known to be mentally ill."

Eliraz, whose Kaplan colleagues observed a reduced Shabbat schedule during the sanctions, said that some other hospitals, including Wolfson in Holon, have police on duty in the emergency room.

The possibility of teaching doctors self defense techniques will also be considered.

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## Where to eat in Israel

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BIRD OF PARADISE (Old City) - Fresh home made food - Dairy and vegetarian cuisine, mellow atmosphere in the heart of the Jewish Quarter, live music and poetry. Kosher 58 Chabad St. (above the Cardo) Tel. 02-626 4723.

DARNA - Authentic Moroccan Restaurant, KOSHER. Our home is your home. Business lunch, salads, couscous, dessert, traditional mint tea. Only NIS 69. With this ad. Open 12-3 p.m., 6:30-11:30 p.m. 3 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 5408.

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# EU scrambles to defend central-banker deal



Wim Duisenberg (right), the newly appointed head of the European Monetary Institute, is congratulated by French National Bank Governor Jean Claude Trichet yesterday in Brussels. (AP)

By ANDREW HURST

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — European Union leaders hastened to save face yesterday, after a late-night deal naming Dutchman Wim Duisenberg head of the new European Central Bank was attacked as a shabby compromise that could hurt the launch of the euro.

The quarrel over who should hold sway over European monetary policy cast a shadow over what should have been Europe's finest hour, when leaders sealed an historic agreement to launch a single currency next year with 11 members.

After hours of hard bargaining, the EU special summit appointed Belgium's Generale Bank, said: "The damage is already done... This leaves a very bad taste."

He was appointed for a full eight-year term but, in a painstakingly negotiated compromise, the Dutchman promptly made it known that he would stand down on grounds of his age once euro banknotes and coins replace national currencies in the 11

founder states in 2002.

At the insistence of French President Jacques Chirac, who campaigned for the job to go to his central bank governor, Jean-Claude Trichet, the summit also agreed that Trichet would then take over from Duisenberg for the next eight years.

Economists in the financial markets poured scorn on the arrangement as a grubby political "fudge" — the inevitable outcome of the kind of horse-trading for which European Union summits are renowned. More ominously, they said the markets would give the deal the thumbs-down when trading opens today.

Peter Praet, chief economist at Belgium's Generale Bank, said: "The damage is already done... This leaves a very bad taste." But EU leaders lost no time in trying to calm the markets, even though several of them could barely disguise their irritation with the way British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the summit chairman, had handled the negotiations.

Italian Prime Minister Romano

Prodi was strident in his defense of the deal, even though he criticized what he called Blair's poor preparation of the issue.

"The debate was hard, but the conclusion was a strong one. We did not reach a weak compromise," said Prodi, adding, "I do not think the markets will react negatively." Finnish Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen also said he does not expect adverse market reaction.

Finnish Central Bank Governor Sirkka Hamalainen, who secured a place on the six-seat ECB board, added that the row would be "forgotten fairly quickly" and would not affect the credibility of the new central bank. But European Parliament president Jose Maria Gil-Robles compared the deal to the "birth of a deformed baby" and told reporters he has "no doubt" it breached the spirit of the Maastricht Treaty on European Union.

Blair, who brokered the deal after hours of arm-wrestling among France, the Netherlands, and Germany, denied the outcome was "a fix or a fudge." He insisted

it preserves what he called the sanctity of the treaty since Duisenberg is retiring of his own free will and would set his own departure date.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said it was one of the toughest EU summits he had attended. "There were many moments when I was not sure if we would get an agreement. There were some critical moments," a subdued Kohl told reporters.

European Commission President Jacques Santer sought to head off any legal challenge by saying that the Commission, as guarantor of EU treaties, certified the agreement's conformity with the letter of the Maastricht Treaty.

Other members nominated to the executive board were former French Treasury director Christian Noyer, as vice-president for four years, Bank of Italy board member Tommaso Padoa Schioppa, Bank of Spain board member Domingo Solans, German Bundesbank chief economist Oskar Issing, and Bank of Finland governor Sirkka Hamalainen.

## France plans massive pro-euro PR campaign

PARIS (Reuters) — French newspaper readers today will be the target of a mass government advertising campaign assuring them that the euro will make them stronger and not undermine their national identity.

The Finance Ministry said in a statement yesterday it planned to place the slogan "The euro makes for strength" in 14 national dailies and 66 regional papers, reaching some 22 million of the country's 59 million population.

The aim is to capitalize on public interest in the Brussels summit fixing the 11-member euro zone and the staff of the European Central Bank, the ministry said.

Readers should discover "how on the one hand, 'we will be stronger', and on the other, 'we will still be ourselves,'" said the statement dated "Euro D-day minus 243 before January 1, 1999," when the euro starts to replace national currencies.

French broadcast media repeatedly told the French that the euro would "rival the dollar and leave the yen far behind."

The campaign aims to counter widespread concern among the French that the advent of a single currency threatens to compromise their national character and traditions, as Europe crumples under the weight of globalization.

Far-right politician Jean-Marie Le Pen captured this mood in a May Day rally, calling the euro a political betrayal of France and urging voters to reject "the Trojan Horse of the Brussels eurocracy."

"Imagine, this morning, someone screaming with joy on the pavement, 'Waaaaaah! The euro's arrived!'" said *Le Journal de Dimanche*. "They would get some funny looks. No one wants to dance in honor of this cold instrument of reigning capitalism."

Defending the euro meant explaining that "national sovereignty was an illusion, a fiction kept up by the fantasies of some political leaders who are nostalgic or in bad faith," it said. "In a time of globalization, which is an intangible fact and not a political choice, countries' monetary policy... is determined by the markets and not by the will of heads of government or finance ministers."

It was down to the defenders of the single currency to explain that the euro would lead to a broader, collective sovereignty, within the European context, it added.

The Finance Ministry said its campaign would also feature Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn attending the minting of "the first euro in Europe," on May 11, school visits by thousands of Finance Ministry and central bank officials, and a practical campaign in late 1998.

## Afghan peace talks break down

By JASON BURKE

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Peace talks aimed at ending two decades of bitter conflict in Afghanistan broke down yesterday after the warring factions hit an impasse over blockades of trade routes.

"They have been suspended indefinitely," said James Ngobe, the United Nations representative at the troubled talks.

The northern-based opposition walked out of the talks to protest the Taliban's decision to send only one negotiator rather than the original five negotiators. They also protested the Taliban religious army's refusal to negotiate the lifting of road blockades and prisoner exchanges.

Hakim Mujahed, the Taliban negotiator, stuck to the Taliban's earlier demand that a governing commission of religious scholars be established quickly to open trade routes and arrange prisoner exchanges.

The breakthrough agreement to form the commission was brokered last Wednesday.

It appeared that the establishment of the commission was in jeopardy as a result of the breakdown in talks.

The governing commission was considered by many to be Afghanistan's best chance at peace in two decades.

"The opposition does not want to talk peace, they want the continuation of fighting," Amir Khan Mutaki, the Taliban's information minister, told reporters in

Afghanistan's beleaguered capital.

If there is to be another round of talks, Mutaki said it will have to be of the governing commission and held either in neighboring Pakistan or in the Afghan city of Jalalabad.

Mutaki blasted the United Nations, which cosponsored the talks with the Organization of the Islamic Conference. He said it was biased against the Taliban and appeared to favor the opposition, although he didn't elaborate.

"The United Nations should stop its one-sided policy and should let the international community and the news media know we want peace," he said.

The collapse of talks also raised fears that heavy fighting could break out in Afghanistan. Both sides in the conflict are heavily armed and have deployed hundreds of fresh troops to the front lines, particularly the deadliest one north of Kabul.

Meanwhile, the opposition alliance that rules roughly 15 percent of northern Afghanistan called on the UN to force the Taliban to open roads, particularly to food-strapped areas of central Afghanistan.

"The UN should put the pressure on the Taliban to lift the road-blocks," said a spokesman for ousted military chief Ahmed Shah Masood, who is known only as Abdullah.

Contacted by satellite telephone in Afghanistan's rugged Panjshir Valley, Abdullah accused the Taliban of violating an earlier

agreement to put everything on the negotiation table, including opening trade routes throughout the war-ravaged country.

The Taliban army demanded the proposed governing commission to lift the road blockades and arrange prisoner exchanges. But the Taliban's northern-based opposition wanted these issues negotiated during the initial round of talks.

The Taliban also wanted the commission established quickly to begin the monumental task of steering the country toward peace and reconstruction. For reasons as yet unexplained, the opposition is resisting.

Earlier yesterday, a spokesman for the anti-Taliban alliance, Rasul Talib, said the opposition wanted the Taliban to lift a blockade of central Afghanistan, where the United Nations says at least 100 people have died of starvation and tens of thousands more are in danger of dying.

The Taliban say a northern route controlled by the anti-Taliban alliance cannot be used because marauding bands of thieves routinely attack vehicles traveling that road.

As both sides left the site of the talks, each accused the other of seeking a military, rather than negotiated settlement.

In the 85 percent of Afghanistan ruled by the Taliban army, which is led by former Islamic seminarians, a harsh form of Islamic law has been imposed. Women cannot work, schools for girls have been closed, and men must grow beards and cover their heads.

## Reno: No reason to remove independent counsel Starr

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — US Attorney General Janet Reno said yesterday she saw no grounds to remove independent counsel Kenneth Starr, who is investigating allegations that US President Bill Clinton had a sexual affair with former White House Monica Lewinsky intern and conspired to cover it up.

"At this point, I have seen no evidence that would justify that action," Reno said on the Fox News Sunday television program.

Clinton denies the allegations against him and has complained that he has become the target of a

character assassination campaign. At a news conference last week, he implied that Starr was part of it.

But when asked why he did not ask Reno to fire Starr, Clinton replied tersely that this would be "inappropriate."

Reno said yesterday she would "pursue my responsibilities with respect to the ultimate issue of whether an independent counsel should be removed or not." But she said she saw no justification now for such a move.

Asked about her relations with Starr, Reno said: "I don't know

Judge Starr very well, but to date I've had, I think, a very cordial relationship with him."

Starr's probe is an outgrowth of his investigation of Clinton's decade-old Whitewater business dealings in Arkansas.

Clinton last week also complained about Starr's unfettered power to investigate White House activities.

"The independent counsel not only has an unlimited budget and can go on forever — 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 years — and spend \$40 million today, \$100m tomorrow," he said.

## US envoy in Cyprus for new peace talks

By MICHELE KAMBA

NICOSIA (Reuters) — US envoy Richard Holbrooke had more separate meetings with leaders of the two parts of divided Cyprus yesterday as he pursued his mission to re-start stalled reunification talks.

Holbrooke met Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash and Cyprus President Glafcos Clerides in Nicosia during the morning and was due to have a second round with the two men later yesterday. He did not speak to reporters

after the morning talks, which followed similar meetings on Saturday that appeared to yield little.

After those talks an official close to the negotiations said: "It is a very crucial, difficult time. Let's leave things at that. The aim is the resumption of the intercommunal talks."

A media blackout surrounds the talks, but according to some reports Holbrooke discussed the wording of invitations he would extend to Clerides and Denkash

to take part in renewed UN-brokered negotiations on Cyprus.

The last round of the talks ended inconclusively last year, and Denkash has refused to return to the negotiating table unless Turkish Cypriot sovereignty in north Cyprus is recognized.

Holbrooke is due to give a news conference before leaving today. Diplomats said he would also be present when a new automatic telephone system linking the north and south of Cyprus is put into operation by the UN today.



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# Rama Messinger makes men pay

By HELEN KAYE

Rama Messinger breezes into the quiet little cafe, her auburn-tinted, colored-for-the-summer hair belling around her face. She slides into the Fifties-style booth with a smile that only a curmudgeon would reject.

Messinger, 29, has been a Habimah actress since she graduated from the Beit Zvi drama school in 1991, but currently she's on loan to the Beersheba Theater where she's playing the lead in *Key for Two*, a farce in the Ray Cooney tradition by John Chapman and Dave Freeman which opened last week.

Messinger plays Micheline, a divorcee with an agenda. A guy made her life miserable? Now the male sex is going to pay — for everything.

Itcho Avital and the inimitable Avi Termin play her two (married, natch!) lovers, the guys she keeps on separate strings. The serpent in this paradise turns up in the shape of Micheline's best buddy, Ann (Sarit Wino-Elad). She tries to tempt the guys and confusion is compounded when the men and their wives meet by accident. Of course, it all comes right in the end, if a bit unexpectedly.

Director Ami Dayan also translated the play from English and, says Messinger, has localized some of the jokes, like a send-up of the Bezeq commercial touting its solution to a busy signal. The rehearsal process "has been two months of laughter," she says.

Messinger is that rarest of creatures, a true clown. On stage she is a joy, whether she's playing the bitchy Natasha in *The Three Sisters*, the aristocratic Roxanne in the otherwise forgettable *Cyrano de Bergerac* or Shmuel Vilozhny's lady in the long-running *The Servant of Two Masters*, all at Habimah.

She has a focused immediacy in the role that is rare on the Israeli stage. Her characterizations are juicy and her comic timing is impeccable. Best of all, she seems to be enjoying herself so much, whether onstage or on the tube where she's worked with Gil Kopech on *Shit Show* and most recently, as Orli, the boss of radio station IDF 1.

Messinger was born and raised in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Eyal where her parents still live. Her mother is an accountant and her father has an all-terrain vehicle (ractoron aviri) agency. A

theater career seemed to be inevitable for the girl who "was always the one who read at all the functions from fourth grade on. I was in all the plays at [elementary] school too."

Thanks to her perceptive sixth grade teacher Sylvia Huberman, Messinger went on to the Thelma Yellin High School of the Performing Arts, from there to the Pikud Darom army troupe, and so to Beit Zvi, and to lead roles from the first at Habimah.

One of her first roles at Habimah was Clara Maria, Spinoza's earthy mistress in Yehoshua Sobol's *Solo*. Then Hanoch Levin cast her in *Hops and Hops* "and after that show someone came up to me and said 'that's it, you're a Levin actress now,' and I said 'no'. I don't want to be pigeon-holed. That's why I freelance. I take only roles I like because I want to be able to enjoy my work. I don't want to be stereotyped. Too many actors are stereotyped too early."

She admits a fondness for comedy and says of *Key for Two*, "that it came at just the right time for me because Micheline isn't just a female lead, she is the lead because she's the one that orchestrates the action, that keeps things going. It's a comic summit for me. The question is where do I go from here?"

She turns down the idea of further study abroad, saying that she would feel odd "because I'm so Israeli," emphasizing the fact by saying that "I was in the Scouts. I even became a scoutmistress, but I do go to London to see shows, to see what's going on in theater," she adds.

She believes that Israeli theater is in trouble because of TV ratings. "I hope that eventually the theater will stop doing Channel 2, and settle down to theater again. I want theater to elevate the audience, not to stoop down to it."

She defends *Key for Two*, making a distinction between cheap and popular, and says "I want the audience to enjoy themselves." She also sees Micheline as striking a blow for feminism which she defines as "growing up with the idea that a woman can have a career for which she's not beholden to anybody. I was the middle child between two brothers. Our upbringing wasn't filled with 'don'ts' and all the women in my family had careers. When I have a family and children everybody will take their turn at everything." Where to go next is largely a



A divorcee with an agenda: Rama Messinger, in the stage farce 'Key for Two' (Hiraniy)

rethorical question because offers keep flooding in, but Messinger is thinking in terms of becoming an entertainer (she sings too), and entertaining couple of weeks off and tour Israel. I really have to force myself to take time off. I love to work.

## It only hurts when I laugh

By MARY CAMPBELL

When comedy writer Larry Gelbart was just 16, he heard Danny Thomas tell a joke he'd written.

Over the years, millions have savored Gelbart's wit in hit Broadway shows, Hollywood scripts and TV classics such as *M\*A\*S\*H*. Now, just past 70, he finds he's writing darker. "You're less inclined to trivialize matters," Gelbart says. "You want what you write to mean a little more than 'Look, I made you laugh again.'"

The book he co-wrote for the 1962 Broadway musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* was fun for fun's sake and there's nothing wrong with that, he says. But he couldn't write it now.

Instead of choosing comic material, today he would rather "write about serious subjects and get laughs with them."

Examples include plays like *Power Failure*, about the personal damage we do to each other, for the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the screenplays *Weapons of Mass Destruction*, satirizing media barons, and *Barbarians at the Gate* about tobacco executives.

A chat with Gelbart isn't a session of snappy one-liners, though he says some people expect that. He's not a performer, he notes, nor does he offer topical humor.

"You have to write about aspects of society that are timeless — greed, stupidity and arrogance — and find those parts of our society in which those things are rampant and talk about that."

Besides Danny Thomas — a customer of his father's, a barber — Gelbart wrote early in his career for stars like Sid Caesar. His work has included everything from Bob Hope's live shows for servicemen to rewriting others' TV and movie scripts.

Recently he tried a new kind of writing: autobiography.

*Laughing Matters*, subtitled "On Writing M\*A\*S\*H, Tootsie, Oh, God!, and a Few Other Funny Things," was published by Random House in March, the month after Gelbart's 70th birthday.

In it, anecdotes and opinions are laced with the Gelbart wit. In describing the movie *Rough Cut*, for instance, he writes, "It's just possible more people worked on the script of the picture than ever went to see it."

He writes five days a week, cutting down from seven at the request of his wife, Pat. Every August, they go to Capri where, Gelbart admits, he works on a laptop.

Asked what makes him most happy, Gelbart says his family. "For my wife and myself, it is really kind of a harvest time. The five kids are married. The kids have

kids. There is that second stage of happiness where you start all over with the little ones, then let them go home with the big ones. Our oldest of the grandkids is 25 and the youngest is 18 months."

Life in the Gelbart household has been an adventure.

In 1963, the family went to England for what was supposed to be six weeks so he could work on *Forum* before it opened in London. They stayed nine years. Occasionally, he says, "I would sneak over to America to do some work for money."

The Gelbarts returned to America after he wrote a pilot for a TV version of *M\*A\*S\*H*, based on the book and movie, and it went on to become a hit series.

Gelbart wrote *M\*A\*S\*H* scripts and "had a hand, sometimes a whole foot" in all scripts written by freelancers during the first four of its 11 seasons. He left when he'd said everything he wanted to say.

"Dumbing down" isn't a phrase Gelbart uses but it's a cycle he describes. "Increasingly, TV audiences' thinking muscles are getting very flabby. Popular entertainment tends to lay it all out without asking for any participation. We have a hugely passive audience, having been conditioned for a long time to think less and less."

Gelbart says he writes to his own standards. "I feel if I'm not going to entertain myself, I'm not going to entertain anybody.... Sometimes I think my bar has been set high. Sometimes I think I've stooped to some pretty easy stuff."

"I know I would love to be as good as Paddy Chayefsky writing about ideas and as funny as Woody Allen when he is being funny. Mainly I just want to please myself, really."

Gelbart calls himself a masochist and attempts to reconcile that with being a comedy writer.

"I am, after all, Jewish and we are the kvetchers (complainers) of the world. And being a writer it's like I'm with the pen police. I'm here to make sure nobody has too good a time, starting with me," he says.

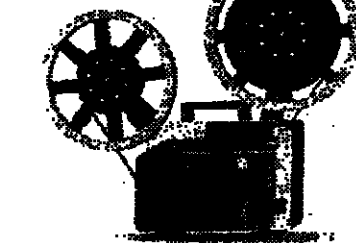
"In *M\*A\*S\*H* I was influenced by the opening song, 'Suicide Is Painless,' which is written in a minor key. There's something very warning about sadness. With that comes the obligation to lighten with a laugh whatever is making you sad."

Currently, Gelbart is writing what he hopes is the final draft of the screenplay based on the Broadway musical *Chicago*. The movie will star Goldie Hawn and Madonna. He says there seems to be interest in a film based on Broadway's *City of Angels*. Cy Coleman wrote the music and Gelbart wrote the book.

And he has sold Home Box Office on six half-hour shows about Beverly Hills plastic surgeons. (AP)

## All unhappy families are alike

### Movie Review



By Adina Hoffman

Yet another tasteful family drama set over the course of a cold New England Thanksgiving weekend, *The Myth of Fingerprints* serves up its typically dysfunctional characters and non-plot with all the surprise of the holiday turkey and pumpkin pie. The first film by 28-year-old writer/director Bart Freundlich walks right into the trap of what I'll call the familial fallacy: i.e., depictions of a screwed-up brood having it out around the dinner table are often just as much fun to sit through as such an argument (or silent stand-off) in one's own household.

After its standard grainy home-movie opening, de rigueur in such "sensitive" explorations of identity and connection, the action shifts to the usual laundry list of "issues" that each of the grown children (Julianne Moore, Noah Wyle, Michael Vartan and Laurel Holloman)

has with one another, with their lovers (Hope Davis, Brian Kerwin, Arija Bareikis), or with their controlling, impenetrable dad (Roy Scheider) and nurturing though ineffectual mother (Blythe Danner).

Everyone here is messed up to some degree — though Freundlich is stingy with the details that might make their conflicts interesting, and prefers to leave what ails them mostly generic, just par for the domestic course.

### THE MYTH OF FINGERPRINTS

Written and directed by Bart Freundlich. Hebrew title: *Ha'mitos shel tvot ha'tzuba*, 90 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance strongly advised.

With Julianne Moore, Noah Wyle, Blythe Danner, Roy Scheider, Laurel Holloman and Michael Vartan

It seems odd, for instance, that we're left in the dark about the siblings' occupations or even the order of their birth. Supposedly, they haven't gathered as a family for three years, and no attempt is made to understand or explain why they do so now. It's



An impenetrable father (Roy Scheider) and a nurturing mother (Blythe Danner) host a Thanksgiving family weekend.

as if Freundlich had set out to prove Tolstoy wrong. According to the filmmaker's scheme, all unhappy families are like one another.

And happy families? They don't even figure in his equation. (An equation, it bears saying, which seems to have struck a chord with the disaffected young groupies at the last

Sundance Film Festival where *Myth* was a big hit.)

The film is at least well-acted. Moore and Danner are especially intriguing, and James LeGros is sweet and unpredictable in the small part of a local eccentric whom Moore's character knew as a child. And there are a few fresh comic scenes. But for all the purported nuance of the

movie's realism, the mechanisms at work here feel patently phony, studied in a way that flies in the face of the deeper, rawer truths Freundlich seeks to reveal.

Rumpled Noah Wyle (of *E.R.*) serves as the first-person eyes onto the story, which means that he must spend the film demonstrating, by means of a series of stock gestures, his readiness to realize something big about himself this weekend: he talks to his off-camera shrink in an only-in-the-movies mumble and sits on the edge of his childhood bed, staring hard at old photographs with a telegraphic I'm-having-a-difficult-memory look plastered across his face. (Incidentally, the same stiltedness plagued Ang Lee's *The Ice Storm* — also brought to us by Myth co-producer James Schamus who seems to be carving out a niche for himself in the frigid-Thanksgiving-melodrama department.)

The only positive thing to be said for *The Myth of Fingerprints* is that Freundlich resists pat resolution of the characters' difficult problems. (He also spares us an explanation of the big symbol in the film's title.)

On the other hand, since he never really established the nature of those particular problems in the first place, this open-endedness seems a dubious achievement.

## An instrument whose time has come

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

When Swedish trombonist Christian Lindberg mounts the Khan Theater stage in Jerusalem (June 12 as part of the Israel Festival) in clown's clothing, there will be no clowning around. The clothes are a prerequisite of composer Luciano Berio for his solo trombone opus "Sequenze V" in *Memory of the Clown*.

"It is a music theater piece, and many such pieces were written for me. But the core of the repertoire is pure classical music and I dress appropriately. I want to be very strict and keep the mind of the audience on the music," says Lindberg.

His love affair with the trombone began rather late for a musician.

Lindberg discovered the instrument when he was 17. And it was through hearing Dixieland jazz. "It started as a jazz thing, but I got a classical [trombone] and joined an orchestra. But then I left the orchestra because I wanted to be as expressive and melodic as in jazz. Today I play jazz just as an amateur. There are plenty of others who do jazz better than I do."

After playing for several years in a symphony orchestra, Lindberg realized that he would like to do more with his instrument. "I had to believe in it. I put all my life in it, left the orchestra and decided not to take any teaching or orchestral positions. It was a decision to give it 5-10 years and if it didn't work out, I would return to something else. But it worked very well

quite quickly." Ever since, he has become the only trombonist in the world who actually makes a living as a solo classical music trombonist.

He has more than 65 concerti written for him, not to mention numerous chamber music and solo works.

But the trombone repertoire is not just late 20th century music. In fact, Lindberg asserts, the instrument has been around for several centuries.

"It's a very old instrument from the 14th century and there is a repertoire from each century up to today, so I mix it as much as I can," he said. "There are approximately 10-15 concerti including ones by Michael Haydn, Leopold Mozart and Rimsky-Korsakov."

Lindberg wholeheartedly recommends that young music students embrace the trombone.

"After all," he says, "the violin and piano developed and reached their peak in the 19th century. At that time, the dynamic level of the society, so to speak, was much lower than today. There were no wars, motorbikes or planes. A forte played on violin sounded very loud to the audience."

"Today in a big hall, a violin cannot fill out a full fortissimo while a trombone can," Lindberg says. "It's an instrument that didn't really develop until about 20 years ago, yet it has the right dynamic range for this age," he says.

"The trombone is an instrument for the next millennium."

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## A drop in the bucket

The best thing that can be said about the NIS 1 billion infrastructure investment package unveiled by the Finance Ministry yesterday is that it is on the right track. By bolstering infrastructure spending, the government can rightly argue that it is taking a step that makes sense in both the short and the long term: i.e. fighting unemployment and investing in growth at the same time. The critics are right however, to ask why only now and why only this.

Though visitors are often struck by how much construction is going on in Israel, and how much the country has developed in the past decade, the nation's transportation infrastructure is woefully behind Europe and the United States generally, and in relation to the ambitions of the Israeli economy specifically.

Major projects, such as the Trans-Israel Highway, Ben-Gurion 2000, the national sewage plan, and various mass transit systems have been talked about for years - but little seems to happen. Delays on such plans are often blamed on often legitimate environmental concerns, but those should be addressed during the design and planning process, rather than left for a debilitating public fight at the last minute.

The government's latest proposal, which will likely change before being decided upon some time next week, constitutes barely a drop in the bucket towards the overall shift in resources that should be taking place. In style, it is reminiscent of the widely panned stimulus package - also infrastructure-oriented - put forward early in the first Clinton administration when faced with a sluggish US economy.

Finance Minister Yassov Neeman, like officials in other nations offering such economic "stimuli," must tiptoe deftly among claims that the package will make an immediate contribution and warnings that economic woes are structural, and as such have no magic cures. The impression given is that the Treasury is responding to public demands to do something, without really believing in what it is doing. What is odd is that the package does not include any funding in an area where relatively small amounts can have a large and immediate impact, namely human capital.

Yisrael Ba'aliya Ministers Natan Sharansky and Yuli Edelstein are right to object to the package on this score, and to call for funding more job-training programs. As Edelstein points out, road building is good as far as it goes, but it does not help those who are trying to make the transition into the high-skilled jobs of the new economy.

The more fundamental problem, however, is that the package does not begin to address the internal contradiction built into the current coalition, sometimes even within individual ministers. Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai, for example, is at the forefront of sounding the alarm regarding unemployment. But as a member of a hardy party and of the "social lobby," he is also among the loudest voices objecting to the major budgetary surgery needed to stimulate real long-term economic growth.

For all its Thatcherite rhetoric, this government raised the minimum wage, thus effectively imposing a tax on the hiring of jobless people, and shows little inclination toward touching the panoply of transfer payments that have been favored over growth-building investments. Once again, the money for the proposed infrastructure package is slated to come from creative accounting and from an across-the-board cut, rather than from a fundamental reordering of priorities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu knows full well that without tax cuts, further budget cuts, and budgetary reform, the economy will never follow the example of the US economy, which created 10 million new jobs over the past four years. He also knows that the alternative is the familiar European model of an unaffordable social safety net, which has produced virtually no new jobs in the last decade.

Yet Netanyahu, Neeman, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel have yet to resolutely confront the "social lobby" with the reality that the price for delaying the hard choices will be paid mostly by the very sectors they purport to represent. It is here that Ministers Sharansky, Edelstein, and Rafael Eitan (who has also criticized the tokenism of the package) should help the government fight for statesmanship over demagoguery, and the national interest over narrow political interests.

Though much attention is being paid to the religious-secular "culture war," the war that is having the most effect on the average Israeli is the economic one that is yet to be fought. The economy may rise out of the doldrums by itself, but moderate growth will not rescue the average Israeli from chronic overdrafts, over-taxation, and over-regulation, let alone realize the dream of attracting a million immigrants seeking success rather than fleeing persecution. Somehow, the government must learn to pursue peace, while organizing a "growth lobby" to transform the economy and create the next million new jobs.

## The secular choice

YOSEF GOELL

What is it with former and would-be heads of Military Intelligence?

First it was former head of Military Intelligence Shlomo Gazit, who in an academic conference several weeks ago raised the issue of the role of politically identified religious officers in the army but then flubbed it by making the horrendous comparison between their knitted kippot and the insignia which Nazi SS officers sported in the Wehrmacht.

is being pushed to the extreme, largely under the aegis of the Supreme Court, and especially under the leadership of Chief Justice Aharon Barak, is what is leading to the creation of the chasm between the camps.

I AM a great admirer of Gazit and of Amidror. I prefer their realistic readings of the intentions of our self-proclaimed genocidal enemies like Syrian President Assad to the claptrap purveyed by former Military Intelligence head Uri Saguy, who

### Provision for 'pluralism' should be what the final compromise is all about

Now, the military advisor to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Brig. Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, who is the highest-ranking religiously observant officer in the IDF, and a leading candidate to be the next chief of Military Intelligence, delivered himself of the following in an interview in *Yediot Aharonot* on April 24:

"There is much wisdom in the assertion that the secular (Israeli Jews) are nothing more than Hebrew-speaking goyim."

And to make sure that this was not simply a slip of the tongue, Amidror went on to reply to the interviewer's interjection: "That's a very inflammatory statement. Are you determining who is and who is not a Jew?" - with the following:

"With the exception of Hebrew, in what does your Jewishness express itself, you secular people? Merely in your living in this country? So do the Arabs. You and your ilk feel that you are Jews because you speak Hebrew. From the viewpoint of the religious, you are merely Hebrew-speaking goyim."

"We religious hold that being Jewish is determined by the observance of the mitzvot (religious precepts). That's what makes for the gap between us... Since all of us are going to stay here, we must maintain communication in order to determine the nature of the Jewish identity of this state. Both sides must make an effort. The secular world-view which

maintained that Assad had made a "strategic commitment to peace."

Gazit was smart enough to realize he had made a terrible gaffe, and he apologized quickly, although the point he was making in regard to politically identified religious officers in the army was valid. I am still waiting for Amidror's apology and retraction.

In the interview, Amidror questioned whether anything would remain of secular Israeli culture in the long run besides the music and shenanigans of the rock group Tipex.

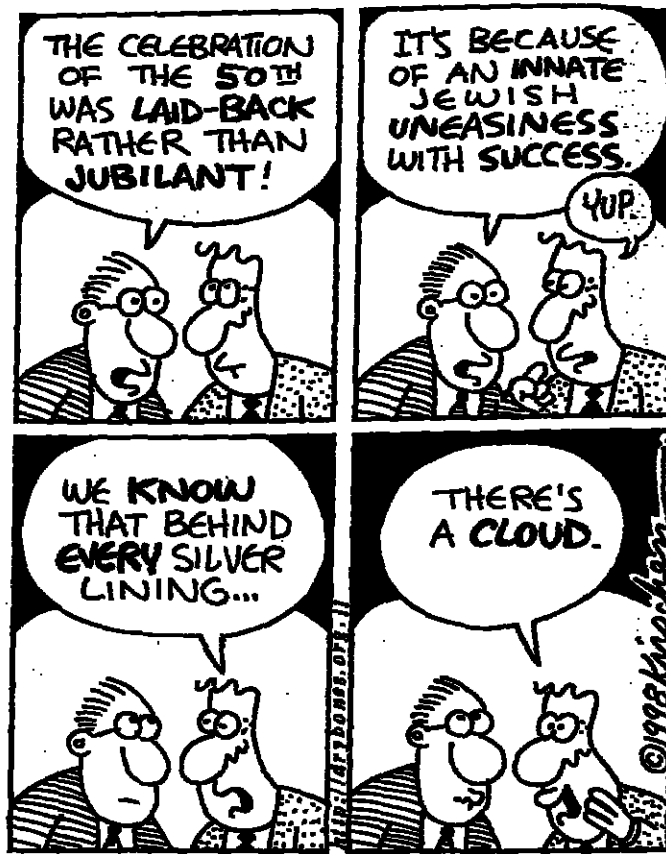
Now Tipex is as typical of the breadth and profundity of secular Israeli culture as the foul-mouthed primitive clown who is the biblical mentor of Shas is typical of the glory of Judaic civilization.

There are three serious problems with Amidror's statements. First, he provides further proof that army officers below the rank of chief of general staff should never be interviewed, to save them from making stupid statements.

Second, if he truly believes what he said about the culture and Jewishness of the overwhelming majority of Israeli Jews, he has no place in the army, and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak should put an end to his career before his own retirement in July.

Third and most seriously, Amidror apparently truly reflects the atmosphere and worldview

## Dry Bones



that has become dominant of late in national-religious circles.

The religious Zionist "heresy" originally constituted a heroic revolt against the ossified haredi religious world of Eastern Europe which fought and continues to fight Zionism and the modern State of Israel, tooth and nail. The religious Zionists believed that it was possible to forge a synthesis between religious observance, Zionism and modernism.

Several weeks ago that same foul-mouthed mentor of Shas delivered himself of even more extreme vulgarities against "the make-believe religiosity" of the national-religious.

Instead of launching a major counter-attack against today's purveyors of Jewish primitivism, the NRP under the leadership of Minister of Education (you've got to be kidding) Yitzhak Levy, has decided to compete with Shas and Aguda for the leadership of that

descent into primitivism and superstition.

That is also what lies behind the Independence Day fiasco around the performance of the Batseva dance troupe. It is worth recalling that this latest shame was preceded not long ago by the rejection by the haredi-controlled Jerusalem Municipality of a gift of a replica of Michelangelo's David, because that world-famous statue is nude (or was the real reason that it is uncircumcised?)

In this atmosphere the talk on the secular side of "status quo," "modus vivendi with the religious" and "pluralism" is nothing short of insane. Provision for "pluralism" should be what the final compromise is all about. What is needed urgently until that compromise is reached is the building up of secular self-assertion as the basis for conducting an all-out fight against the sort of primitive religiosity that is threatening to engulf us.

## More than a tourist attraction

EFRAIM INBAR

Turkey's willingness to hold a strategic partnership with Israel is the most consequential event in Middle Eastern international affairs, from Israel's point of view, since Anwar Sadat's breakthrough visit here in 1977.

In the next few days, a new Israeli ambassador, Uri Bar-Ner, will arrive in Turkey, and he deserves our support and encouragement for his important task of consolidating and expanding the extensive network of ties which have developed over the last few years.

Turkey and Israel are the two most powerful countries in the Middle East, both in terms of military strength and in their level of industrialization. Furthermore, they are the closest to the West, and in particular to the US. Turkey is a key state not only because of its size (its population is over 60 million), military power, and pro-Western orientation.

Turkey's geographical location makes it a vital barrier to renewed Russian expansion in the Middle East. It also serves as a buffer to the Islamist wave from Iran, and serves as a secular alternative model for states with an Islamic population.

Israel is a natural partner to Turkey's strategic concerns - its fears of the expansion of Islamic and Russian influence. Radical Iraq, long-range missile proliferation and weapons of mass destruction are further issues of concern in both Ankara and Jerusalem. Both countries also have a very

similar dispute with Syria - a country that encourages terror and claims as its own territories under the control of its neighbors.

The logic of "the enemy of my

window of opportunity, of which full advantage must be taken. Therefore, Israeli diplomacy should give high priority to further improve our bilateral relations with

### Jerusalem's relationship with Ankara enhances Israeli deterrence

enemy is my ally" strengthens the relations between the two countries for in general, they both have an interest in preventing an Arab hegemony in the region.

Israel's relationship with Turkey - an important Moslem state - enhances Israeli deterrence. The Israeli-Turkish connection moderates the last peace rejectionist - Syria, and limits its ability to use military force against Israel.

Official Turkish spokespeople have even stated that their country will make its aerial space available to the IAF, should Israel be attacked by missiles from Iraq. Military cooperation has also extended to sensitive areas such as intelligence gathering and combating terror. Israel has also gained from Turkish arms purchases and from highly profitable weapon technology transfers.

TURKEY'S unprecedented friendship toward Israel has opened up a

Ankara. Likewise, Israel has a clear interest that the West, and the US in particular, show more understanding toward Turkey's predicament. Israel's representatives should be instructed to present Turkey's strategic importance in the Middle East, and in international politics at large. The European Union's short-sightedness in rejecting Turkey should be pointed out to the Europeans, since this rejection only serves the purposes of the Islamic circles in Turkey and makes it more difficult for the secular elite to maintain its pro-Western democratic orientation.

As in the past, but more so, Turkey must be assisted in the American arena. First, Jewish organizations must be educated of Turkey's importance, and perhaps they should be encouraged to visit that country, too, when they are in the region. The Turks also deserve the Israeli lobby's support in Washington.

Israel's tightening ties with Turkey have raised criticism and fear in some countries in the region. It must be fully explained to Greece, Cyprus and Egypt that this cooperation is not directed against them.

But even if the partnership with Turkey carries a diplomatic cost, it is undoubtedly a step worth taking. It is a mistake to assume that in the international game, one can be friends with everyone.

Greece and Cyprus are countries of minor importance in Europe and of no consequence in the Middle East. Sensitivity towards relations with Egypt, the most important Arab state, is important. However, one must also acknowledge the bitter truth that Egypt perceives Israel as a regional rival, irrelevant of which course Israeli foreign policy takes.

Common strategic interests are the bond between Turkey and Israel. The understanding between the two countries demands a similar perception of Middle Eastern reality.

The Turks believe they live in a dangerous neighborhood and do not entertain any illusions about a New Middle East. They conduct a cautious foreign policy according to the time-honored rules of the balance of power.

This prism is the only guarantee for survival in the Middle East, a region which lags several generations behind the political reality characterizing international relations in Western Europe.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### CULTURAL ARROGANCE

Sir, - I'm shocked and angered that the media and certain politicians have turned the Batseva Dance Company fiasco into a Left-Right, religious-secular rift. There seems to be no limit to certain people's capacity for obstinacy, arrogance, stupidity and chutzpa.

"Jubilee Bells" organizer Doron Shmueli, if aware of the troupe's plans, should have vetoed them. If unaware, he wasn't doing his job.

Batseva can't do much to perform as it sees fit, in underwear or otherwise, with its paying customer, present by choice, before it. But it may not and should not sub-

ject an audience of thousands to a potentially controversial or irritating performance, even if it is only so to a small percentage of the audience.

The audience in the stadium, and many more at home, here and abroad, had the right to expect a performance that could be enjoyed by everyone. And the fuss made by certain people, casting a pall over the main event of the country's jubilee, only showed them clearly for the selfish, narrow-minded people they are, their self-righteous claims of only being concerned for culture and freedom of expression, a wretched,

barefaced lie.

I am a religious Jew, and I would not dream of telling another person what he can or can't view, perform, eat or live by. Neither would my friends. Why am I not entitled to the same courtesy from the culturally enlightened community of artists, commentators and politicians?

Freedom of expression and freedom of culture do not mean the right to force things down one's throat.

ARIE WEISS

Ma'aleh Adumin.

### OFFENSIVE DANCE

Sir, - I certainly could not be described as haredi. Nowhere near. But I must say I am delighted the Batseva Dance Company canceled its performance at the Independence Day celebrations.

I saw extracts of the intended performance and found it not only offensive, but totally lacking in respect for the sensitivities of the bulk of Israelis.

It is also a very poor reflection on Batseva that it has to resort to what at best can be labeled sensationalism in order to aspire to some artistic merit. Whatever happened to beauty in dance?

If one wishes to see people stripping, there are no doubt many strip joints in Tel Aviv where one can be accommodated. There is no need to flaunt such behavior on the national stage

and give the impression that this is what Israel is capable of achieving.

Had Batseva proceeded as intended, I, for one, would during its performance, have felt the need to cringe and feel ashamed to be an Israeli.

HARRY FRIEDGOT

Netanya.

### SOLIDARITY STRIKE

Sir, - Freedom is man's most precious good. Hence the tiniest infringement should be instantly met with the fiercest uproar and resistance.

In the case of the Batseva scan-

dals, it would have behooved the other performing artists to declare a solidarity strike.

However, Voltaire I should like to declare loud and clear: "I disapprove of what you say, but I

will defend to the death your right to say it."

PROF. MARGE E. LANDS-BERG

Haifa.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On May 4, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported from Berlin that drastic action was taken against Jewish teachers, professors and intellectuals. The paper also reported the massive expulsion of Jews from businesses.

Threats and intimidation forced Jews to give up their shops and factories.

50 years ago: On May 4, 1948,

*The Palestine Post* reported that in defiance of the cease-fire, severe fighting continued throughout the country while the Red Cross demanded that its flag should be flown over the entire Jerusalem area which continued to be punished by the heavy Arab Legion gun fire. Arabs were pushed back south of Tel Aviv and the residents of Hatikva Quarter were finally able to

return to their bullet-ridden homes.

25 years ago: On May 4, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Lebanese jet fighters went into action against terrorist bases on the outskirts of Beirut as fighting between their troops and Palestinian terrorists spread all over the south of the country.

Alexander Zvielli

05/04/1998







# The Nation

## In Your Face, Pro Basketball

By ALLEN BARRA

**W**HEN the decade began, the prevailing image of the National Basketball Association was the breathtaking vertical leap of Michael Jordan. As the 90's end, it's Latrell Sprewell's hands around his coach's throat — or the sight of Jeff Van Gundy, coach of the New York Knicks, being dragged around the floor like a rodeo clown last week as he tried to restrain Alonzo Mourning of the Miami Heat in a playoff brawl.

It would have seemed unimaginable four years ago, but now it's possible to ask whether pro basketball has replaced Major League Baseball as the sick man of major sports. Four years ago, a strike cut short perhaps the most prosperous season in baseball history, killing the World Series and polluting the game with a stench that is just now dissipating. Remember the litany of criticism? Baseball games are too long; younger viewers are being lost because night games begin too late; the big-revenue teams are buying up most of the talent; the players are greedy and out of control (this

### Two points: Basketball's in a slump. Baseball isn't.

particularly after the Roberto Alomar spitting incident); the sport is rudderless without a commissioner, and on and on.

It was scarcely noticed that despite all the bad publicity, the World Series in 1995 and 1996 clobbered the N.B.A. Finals in the Nielsen TV ratings. Major League Baseball still has dreadful national marketing, low viewership among the young, high ticket prices and no permanent commissioner. But its performance, if unspectacular, is nevertheless rock solid: attendance per game is up 5 percent on average over last year, and prospective franchise owners are waiting in line to pay the \$200 million-plus entry fee to get into the major leagues.

By contrast, pro basketball is now being scrutinized for faults long overlooked. The games, many longtime fans have heard to grumble, drag on too long, particularly in the fourth quarter, with its tedium of grabbing, holding and foul shooting. Younger viewers, it seems, are not so enamored of the N.B.A. as was believed a few years ago. The Starter Corporation, makers of N.B.A. apparel, reported a loss of nearly \$40 million

last year. Explaining the loss, a former marketing analyst said children had been steered to other interests: "Parents began to notice that on the whole, basketball games were on later than baseball games. They don't want their kids up that late. And the kids themselves are finding other things to do, like playing video games."

### Bulls, Again

Ticket prices? Exact figures are difficult to come by. But since 1995, prices of N.B.A. tickets, already almost 40 percent higher than baseball tickets, have risen more than 25 percent; baseball ticket prices have risen about 10 percent over the same period.

Nor does basketball hold a candle to baseball when it comes to competitive balance. Thanks to liberal free agency, baseball has wide-open pennant races, in which teams that finish last one year make it to the World Series the next, or a new team like the Florida Marlins wins a championship. In the N.B.A., where the salary cap freezes rosters, the Chicago Bulls win every year.

And you want to talk about greed and discipline? Pro basketball players are paid more on average than baseball players, and regularly exhibit behavior that makes Roberto Alomar seem like Cary Grant: witness the punchfest Thursday night between Larry Johnson of the Knicks and the Heat's Mourning (Johnson, Mourning and a third player, Chris Mills of the Knicks, got suspensions.)

People are beginning to tune out the N.B.A. According to Nielsen, the league's TV ratings have declined noticeably, from an all-time high of 5.1 in the 1995-96 season to 4.7 this past season. (One rating point equals 970,000 households.) While it can be argued that all network ratings are in decline in an age of so many choices, that's not comforting news for a game whose lifeblood is TV.

Meanwhile, league attendance is down, for the first time in years. The drop is minuscule, less than 1 percent on average per game, but we're talking about a league whose revenues have been growing by at least 10 percent every year from 1988 to last season. Also troubling is the increasing number of paying customers who don't show up for games, and not just in the arenas of losing teams. The Charlotte Observer recently claimed that the Hornets, who made the playoffs, were suffering about one no-show for every four tickets sold.

What's the basic problem? Perhaps the N.B.A.'s star-focused marketing strategy, begun around the time Magic Johnson and Larry Bird came into the league back in 1979. In an interview, Terry Pluto, who predicted some of the league's problems four years ago in his book "Falling From Grace" (Simon & Schuster), offered this critique of

### Nobody's pulling your leg: The N.B.A.'s appeal has waned.

Commissioner David Stern's approach: "Basketball has real roots, roots perhaps as deep as baseball's, but David Stern and the people who run the league's promotional marketing didn't play on that. Instead, they marketed their best players like TV stars. Well, they got the big TV money, but now they're subject to the whim of a fickle TV audience." Which is another way of saying that, while basketball's appeal may be miles wide, the N.B.A.'s share of that appeal may be only inches deep.

Most of the stars the public identified with in the early years of the N.B.A. boom — Magic, Bird, Jordan, Charles Barkley, Hakeem Olajuwon, Patrick Ewing, Dennis Rodman and Karl Malone — are retired or in their mid-30's, in the autumns of their careers. And so far, none of the league's new stars, not even Shaquille O'Neal or Grant Hill, has exhibited anything like the star power of the older ones. Amazingly, and seemingly overnight, basketball has gone from the sport with the youngest major stars to the one with the oldest.

This isn't lost on potential advertisers. Five years ago Reebok paid more than 100 N.B.A. players to be walking, leaping billboards; when negotiations for the current contracts are up, the number is expected to be fewer than 30.

### Labor Trouble

The N.B.A. has a related youth problem. Unlike baseball, which has an extensive minor league farm system, basketball has followed the lead of pro football in exploiting college programs, paying little for player development in the process. Like football, basketball has derived a huge promotional benefit from the fact that its major stars came into the league as household names.

But as more and more young players leave college early for pro contracts, both the pro leagues and the college programs that supply them are undermined. Thus in the view of serious fans, newer players lack the basic skills and polish that made the N.B.A. in the mid-80s so exciting.

No matter what the ratings on this year's playoffs — and you know David Stern is staying up late praying that Jordan and the Chicago Bulls make it to the finals — the N.B.A. is assured of its TV money from NBC



Hanging on: Jeff Van Gundy of the Knicks restrains Alonzo Mourning of Miami.

and Turner Sports for the next four years.

But on the horizon is the prospect of a labor war potentially uglier than the one baseball went through in 1994 and '95. If the N.B.A.'s current talks with the players' union over their basic agreement break down — over the team salary cap, for example, or greater league disciplinary power — a handful of super-powerful agents could easily call the league's bluff by threatening to pull their clients out and start a new league. Such a threat would take years to carry out, but it would threaten the N.B.A.'s TV money from NBC

and Turner Sports for the next four years.

But all that's needed for a competing pro basketball league is a handful of players, a few arenas, some balls and colorful silk underwear. That and the TV money to back it up, for which there are certainly ready customers. Do you think Fox might be ready to drop pro hockey and use that money for a down payment on a new B-ball league? Stern may want to stop some blank tapes and his VCR and start an all of this season's threat would take years to carry out, but it would threaten the N.B.A.'s TV money from NBC and Turner Sports for the next four years.

### Thanks a Bunch, Viagra

## The Pill That Revived Sex, Or at Least Talking About It

By DOUGLAS MARTIN

**I**T is now well accepted that the diamond-shaped blue pill is a wonder of the modern age, a restorer of hope to the hopeless, the ultimate growth stock and, yes, in the blink of the CBS eye, already a tired joke at cocktail parties. But Viagra is now ascending to a yet loftier status, that of Topic One for America's would-be intellectuals, as seemingly everyone from subway to salon waxes ponderous or salacious or both in the rush to instant analysis.

Bob Guccione, the publisher of Penthouse, proclaimed that Viagra will "lead to new relationships between men and women and undercut the feminist agenda." He said it will "free the American male libido in the same way the Pill did."

Wow. But that's not Erica Jong's take. In a very long article in the weekly New York Observer, she used words you will not read in this newspaper to suggest that it might be about time for men to start satisfying women in the bedroom, given the way so many of them strut about. But a pill? "We've been promised pills to change the world before, and the world has other ideas," she wrote.

### In the Beginning

Like it or not, Viagra seems inescapable. At the Fifty Plus Expo at Madison Square Garden last week, a psychiatrist lecturing about sexuality was asked about nothing but Viagra, until someone brought up a new topic. Do such aphrodisiacs as rhinoceros horns and ground-up tiger penises work?

Not for tigers, the doctor replied. But he purred about Viagra, the Pfizer pill being prescribed at a 40,000-a-day rate. Viagra is a story that has already developed second chapters. A Milwaukee clinic made just as much news last week in stopping sales of the drug on the Internet as it did the week before in peddling it.

Impotence, of course, is a problem dating back to Genesis, when Abimelech was stricken with it for just thinking about having sex with Abraham's wife. The

ancient Greeks and Egyptians had folk remedies to deal with it. Homer and Shakespeare both mentioned the flowering plant Jimsonweed as a possible antidote. And, in recent years, urologists have often recalled the dramatic moment at a 1983 meeting of the American Urological Association in Las Vegas when a British physician, Giles Brindley, dropped his trousers to reveal the dramatic maximizing effect of an injection he had given himself.

But Viagra is something very different, much easier to use than previous generations of suppositories, injections and vacuum pumps. It might be more than that: there is this giant hope across the land that sex itself may qualitatively change for the better — though at \$10 a pop, with scant hope of insurance company reimbursement, it may not be for everyone. "And now I can't even afford sex," a Brooklyn subway passenger grumbled the other day. At the least, Viagra marks another step toward open discussion of taboo subjects.

"I think it's a revolution," said an 82-year-old retired garment worker, who feels he now may be able to keep up with his 87-year-old wife. His functioning had been impaired by prostate surgery. "The women should be very

**Sexual impotence is a problem so widespread that more and more men seem to be coming down with it now that there's a cure.**

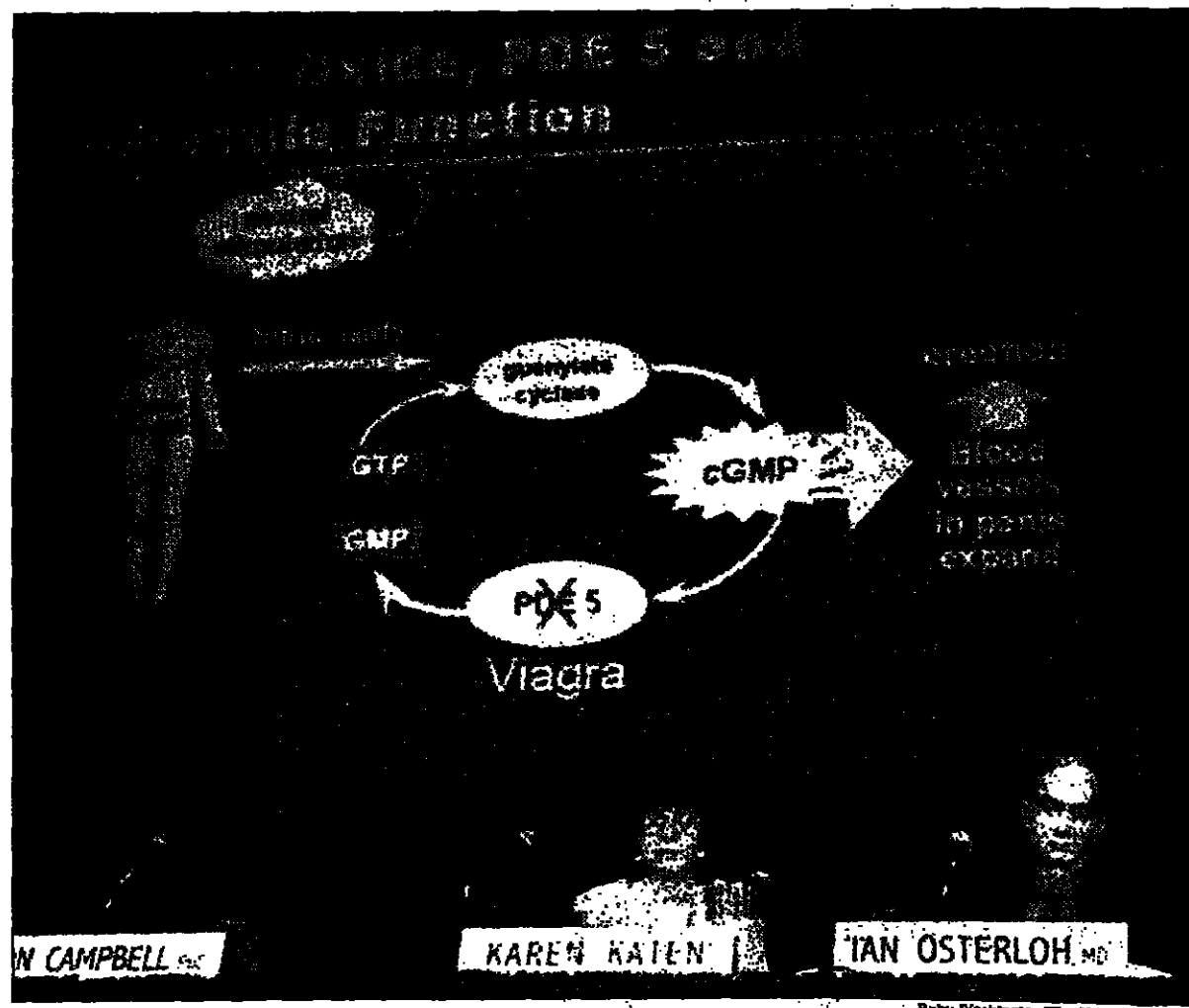
happy with it, because now men can be much more sexually active for a longer period of time."

Most estimates are that at least 30 million men suffer from impotence, but the numbers are higher if you define the problem more broadly. In 1994, the Massachusetts Male Aging Study asked questions about the specifics of men's erections, and reached the conclusion that half the male population between the ages of 40 and 70 had at least mild "erectile dysfunction," meaning occasional impotence. But urologists question how much of this is "erectile dysfunction," meaning a vague sense of dissatisfaction. A new vocabulary is emerging.

But there is also a blurring of the line between real need and sexual enhancement. Reached at his Manhattan office, Dr. Steven Lamm took time away from examining a 52-year-old man who wanted Viagra as "insurance" in his relationship with a 24-year-old woman. His goal was repeated orgasms, though he also inquired about a drug to deal with his baldness.

"The man is right in front of me," Dr. Lamm said. "I can't make these things up."

But the internist is certainly quick to leap on a trend. He participated in clinical trials of another impotence pill



Arrows to virility: Pfizer announcing Federal approval of Viagra in March.

about to hit the market, Zonagen's Vasomax, and combined that experience with the Viagra research to write a book called "The Virility Solution." Published by Simon & Schuster, it has this Tuesday as its official publication date.

Viagra, he contends, is tapping a new market. "The vast majority of men who have asked about the drug have never gone to the doctor and asked about their dysfunction," he said. "What you're seeing is a monumental landmark in the field of sexual medicine. This is not repair work anymore. I'm a coach now."

### Sexuality Lost and Found

Some contend that Viagra is important because it gives many men back a part of themselves, a part they had lost and deeply mourned. Dr. J. Francois Eid, a urologist and director of the Sexual Function Center at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, said his experience in the Viagra trials led him to think of penile dysfunction in the sense of a body deformity. It is like losing a foot, but with only you knowing it, he says. And the psychological effects multiply: Men stop hugging their wives. "I didn't want to stir things up," one told him. Wives are afraid to kiss their husbands. Men become irritable with their children.

"The moment I lost my erection, I just couldn't take it anymore," a patient said. "Every time there's a joke about sex, my head sinks into my shoulder. It's almost like having cancer."

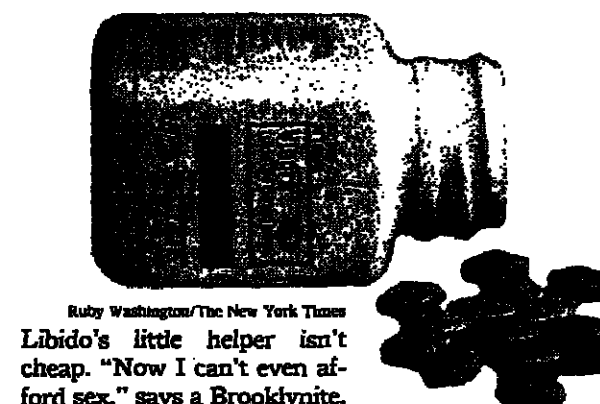
Now, for people who deal professionally with sex issues, there is an almost palpable sigh of relief. "It's a major miracle and I'm so happy for my patients," said Karen Martin, a sex therapist at the Sexuality Center at North Shore-L.I.J. Health Systems in Lake Success, N.Y. "So many people experience sexual difficulties."

But she said she is worried that people will be disappointed if they think a pill will solve everything. "If you hate your partner, or find her repulsive, or if she is psychologically hard on you, it won't help at all," she said. "This is not going to make years of emotional damage disappear."

She further suggested that Viagra could have the effect of focusing sexual experience too narrowly, something she says already limits many couples. "In this culture we see being sexual as having intercourse," she said. "We're a very meat-and-potatoes culture. In other cultures, they toss in a few mushrooms."

Mainly, Ms. Martin suggests that men must try harder, pill or no pill. "Too many men are lazy lovers," she said. "It's like they'd rather play golf, watch television or go to sleep."

Raoul Felder, the divorce lawyer, says Viagra is the talk of his office. One woman said she hasn't had sex with her husband for 35 years, and now hopes she can. But Mr. Felder takes the more cynical view, not uncommon in his business: that the drug will be most utilized with mistresses and girlfriends. He claims to worry about this. "Some of these old guys will drop dead from it," he said. "They'll collapse."



Ruby Washington/The New York Times  
Libido's little helper isn't cheap. "Now I can't even afford sex," says a Brooklynite.

سواء من الرجال



## Ideas & Trends

# Look Who's Talking. Don't Bother Listening.

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

**S**O ancestors of human beings might have had the capability to speak as early as 400,000 years ago, as anthropologists reported last week. But what did they have to say? Probably much more than an occasional yabba dabba doo.

They may have huddled around an open fire and cursed Og for letting a choice mammoth get away. Or they shivered in a rock shelter and talked over plans to move south for the winter, following the game. Even then, weather was a conversational standby: My, my, aren't winters colder now than in olden times?

Anthropologists suspect there was something else familiar about ancestral chitchat. They probably gossiped a lot about family, social relationships, sickness and death. If that poor young mother dies, who will take care of her baby? Is the head of the clan the hunter he once was? Is your son interested in my daughter? Perhaps Og was mooning over that woman in the neighboring clan when he should have had his mind on that mammoth.

What the earliest speaking ancestors spoke about is hardly a trivial question. It may reflect the evolution-



**New evidence suggests that Neanderthals could speak. Since then, though, only man has developed both speech and language.**

ary root of language and speech, behavior critical in setting humans apart from other animals.

What they said, though, was less important to the scientists than when they actually said it. The scientists at Duke University last week announced that they explored a new avenue of fossil anatomy and found surprising evidence suggesting that these vocal abilities may have evolved earlier than previously thought. The much-maligned Neanderthal could probably speak, though perhaps not well enough to ward off extinction 30,000 years ago.

"When you look around us, only one animal has language and speech," said Dr. Matt Cartmill, an anthropologist at Duke University, whose work with Dr. Richard F. Kay and a former student, Michelle Balow, was published last week in *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. "That permits us to have a power over the world that no other animal has."

Ancestors as far back as Homo erectus more than a million years ago had developed a brain about 80 percent the size of the human brain and probably had a lot on their minds before they had the vocal equipment to utter their thoughts and feelings. They were beginning to live in larger groups, sharing work and responsibility,

dealing with increasingly complex social relations by imposing symbolic meaning on reality. Their brains — scientists see a correlation between brain size and the size of living groups — thus could have been capable of language before they could speak a word.

The connection between social relations and speech is the reason Dr. Robin Dunbar, a British anthropologist, thinks it very likely that primeval conversation was spiced with gossip, antecedents of the kaffeeklatsch and talk shows.

The new research by the Duke physical anthropologists has revived debate about the origin and timing of human speech. Whether Homo erectus, a significant transition species between primitive and more recent human ancestors, could speak is problematic. The earliest unequivocal evidence for human speech is the cave art and other artifacts of modern Homo sapiens, beginning some 40,000 years ago. Imagine the critics coming and going at Lascaux and speaking of some cave Michelangelo.

In any event, the cave painters left the first clear expressions of symbolic thought and a strong argument for speech as a recent development.

But the Duke researchers found anatomical evidence suggesting that vocal capabilities like those of modern humans may have evolved in archaic Homo sapiens, including Neanderthals. They compared the diameter of a hole at the bottom of the skulls in modern

humans, apes and several earlier species of the genus Homo.

The hole is the hypoglossal canal through which nerve fibers from the brain pass to control muscles of the tongue. Measurements showed that the passage in modern human skulls is twice the width of those in speechless chimpanzees and some of the more distant human ancestors. But in 400,000-year-old fossils of the Homo line, the hypoglossal canals fell within the size range of modern humans and thus could have carried enough nerves for tongues to form speech sounds. It is only suggestive evidence, not proof, but enough to intrigue other scientists.

### More Than Dada

One problem, Dr. Cartmill said, is sorting out the physical attributes crucial to speech. The position of the larynx, the voice box, is undoubtedly important. In apes it sits high in the neck. It is lower in humans, which facilitates the utterance of a wide range of sounds but makes people the only mammals incapable of simultaneously drinking and breathing.

If the content of ancestral talk was familiar, the sounds may have been less so, outside the nursery. Infants are born with a high larynx, which limits their ability to form any but the simplest word sounds like goo, dada, mamma. Only when the larynx descends do they

develop fluency. Perhaps, anthropologists say, early ancestors were similarly restricted. Vowel sounds like e, a and o are characteristic of all languages today, suggesting deep origins.

Dr. Philip Lieberman, a cognitive scientist at Brown University, who wrote "Eve Spoke" (Norton, 1998), imagines early speech as short, simple words strung together in short phrases or sentences uttered slowly. Studying children, he noted that they talk about 50 percent more slowly than adults until about the age of 10. It is "a reasonable guess," he said, that the same applied to early ancestors.

Dr. Ian Tattersall, an evolutionary biologist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and author of "Becoming Human" (Harcourt and Brace, 1998), also looks to children as possible models of how language and speech developed. At first, their sounds are elemental, crying, laughing and grunting. With growth and experience, undifferentiated connections in their brains are "rewired" with new pathways permitting speech of increasing complexity. This may be one reason, he said, that learning a new language becomes much more difficult after the age of 10.

Whoever had the first word, even the Duke scientists realize theirs will not be the last word on the origin of human speech.

## Chaos Theory

# Unlearning the Lessons of Econ 101

Continued From Page 9

claim, as the former Clinton economic adviser and Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Alan Blinder did last year, that deficit cutting can lift the economy by encouraging lower interest rates and more capital spending. Proof of the turnaround in thinking can be found in the 1998 edition of Paul Samuelson's classic introductory economics textbook, which asserts, "a large public debt is likely to reduce long-term economic growth."

### Rapid money growth = Higher inflation

Mr. Friedman's famous dictum that "inflation is always and everywhere a monetary phenomenon" — meaning that inflation is caused by the government's decision to print too much money — is in no danger of becoming obsolete. Nonetheless, the historical link between the nation's money supply and inflation has all but collapsed. The money supply jumped sharply in the mid-1990's,

## Lower unemployment and lower inflation? The pros are stumped.

yet no acceleration of inflation followed. In the early '80's, the German, American and Canadian central banks adopted targets for money growth. But that experiment had barely begun when new financial innovations — everything from money market accounts to electronic money transfers — produced gyrations that all but rendered the money supply useless as a target for controlling inflation.

Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, made it official in 1993, announcing that he was no longer paying attention to the money supply — even though the Fed is still required by law to publish monetary growth targets.

### World growth = Higher oil prices

Since energy stokes the machinery that drives the global economy, it seems perfectly reasonable to expect oil prices to rise during periods of economic growth.

Much of the global economy is growing now. But the price of a barrel of oil, if one takes inflation and changes in the value of the dollar into account, is about the same as it was on the eve of the Arab oil embargo of 1973 (around \$3 in 1973 dollars). "It's definitely a surprise," says Geoffrey Heal, an economist at the Columbia Business School. "The conventional wisdom is that growth

## Global growth and lower oil prices? Yes, believe it or not.

pushes up commodity prices."

What happened to the forecasts of \$20 a barrel oil? Three things. Despite the proliferation of four-wheel-drive vehicles and out-sized family homes, average energy efficiency is way up. Second, the spreading recession in Asia, a heavy user of oil, has cut into demand. But the main reason for low prices is a flood of new oil supplies. Not only is Iraq back in business, but hardly a day goes by without an announcement from another former Soviet republic of a pipeline project.

### Stock prices = Earnings expectations

The value of stocks has quadrupled in the past six years, adding a staggering \$1 trillion to household balance sheets in the last three months alone. Share prices are so high, in fact, that almost all measures of valuation are at record levels (and these records go back in some case to 1871). The rule of thumb is that when prices step out of the bounds of historical norms, investors had better watch out.

Some experts argue that the old rules no longer apply. Stock prices reflect the riskiness as well as the expected future returns of the investment. Jeremy Siegel, a professor of finance at the Wharton School, argues that stocks aren't as risky in the long run as everybody always thought they were, compared to low-risk investments like bonds. Since 1871, stocks have risen more than twice as fast as bonds — 7.0 percent a year versus 2.8 when adjusted for inflation.

Thus, Mr. Siegel says, people are smart to pay a lot for the fast-growing stocks of the present bull market. There is some evidence, from surveys as well as the investment choices of participants in large retirement funds, that investor attitudes have indeed changed. If Mr. Siegel is correct, the fact that today's share prices are historically high in comparison to companies' earnings doesn't necessarily mean stocks are overvalued. But the Yale economist Robert Shiller cautions that the same "new era" claims were being made during another huge run-up in the stock market. He quotes a fellow Yale economist, Irving Fisher, who said in 1929 that, "It was only as the public came to realize that stocks were to be preferred to bonds ... that the bull market began in good earnest to cause a proper valuation of common shares."

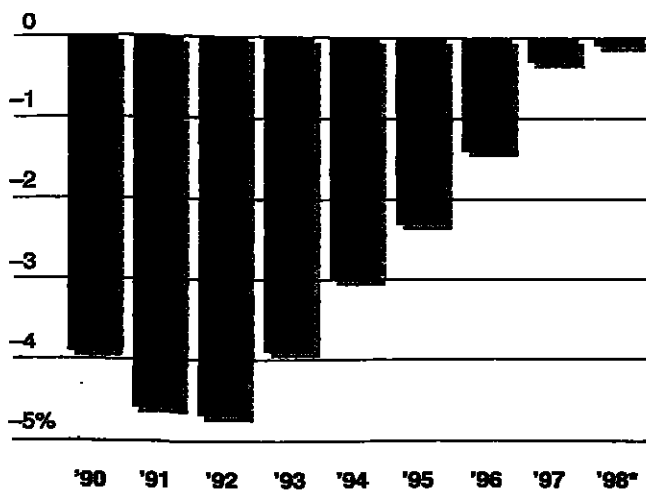
## Economic Laws Then and Now

### Case Study No. 2: Budget Deficits and Economic Growth

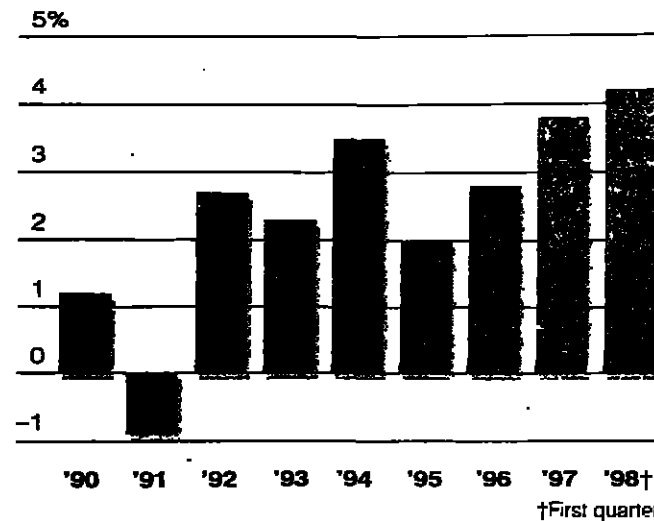
**THE PRINCIPLE** Lower budget deficits equal slower economic growth.

**THE REALITY** As the U.S. has eliminated its deficit, growth has continued and even picked up.

FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT AS A PERCENT OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT



PERCENT CHANGE IN GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

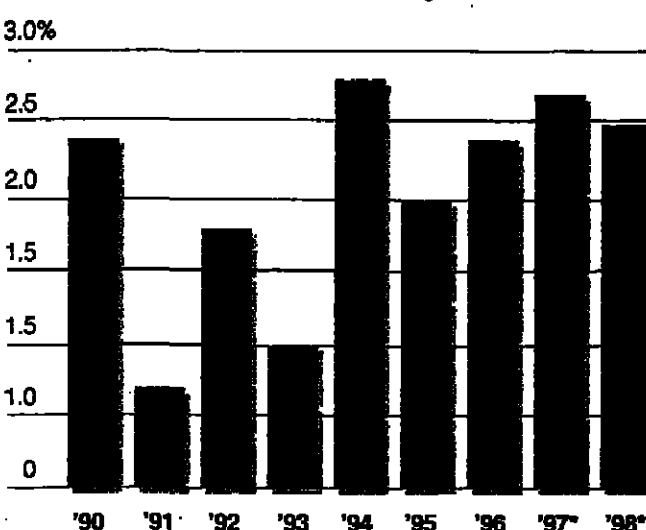


### Case Study No. 3: Economic Growth and Oil Prices

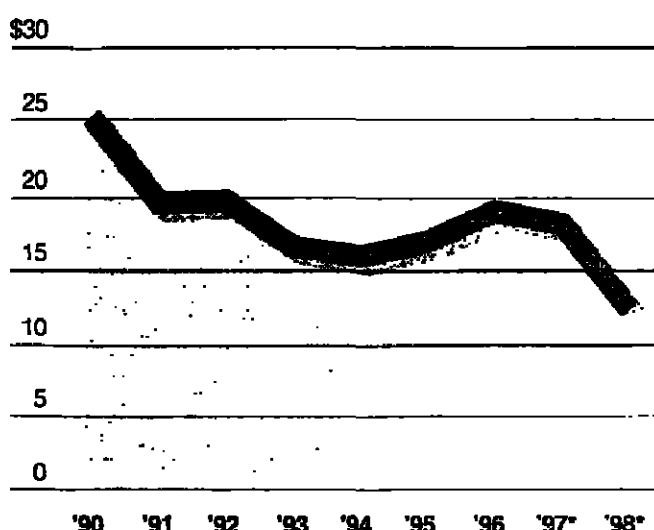
**THE PRINCIPLE** Strong world economic growth leads to higher oil prices.

**THE REALITY** Oil prices have fallen since the early 1980's and are now approaching pre-1970 levels in inflation-adjusted dollars.

PERCENT CHANGE IN THE COMBINED GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR SEVEN ECONOMIES



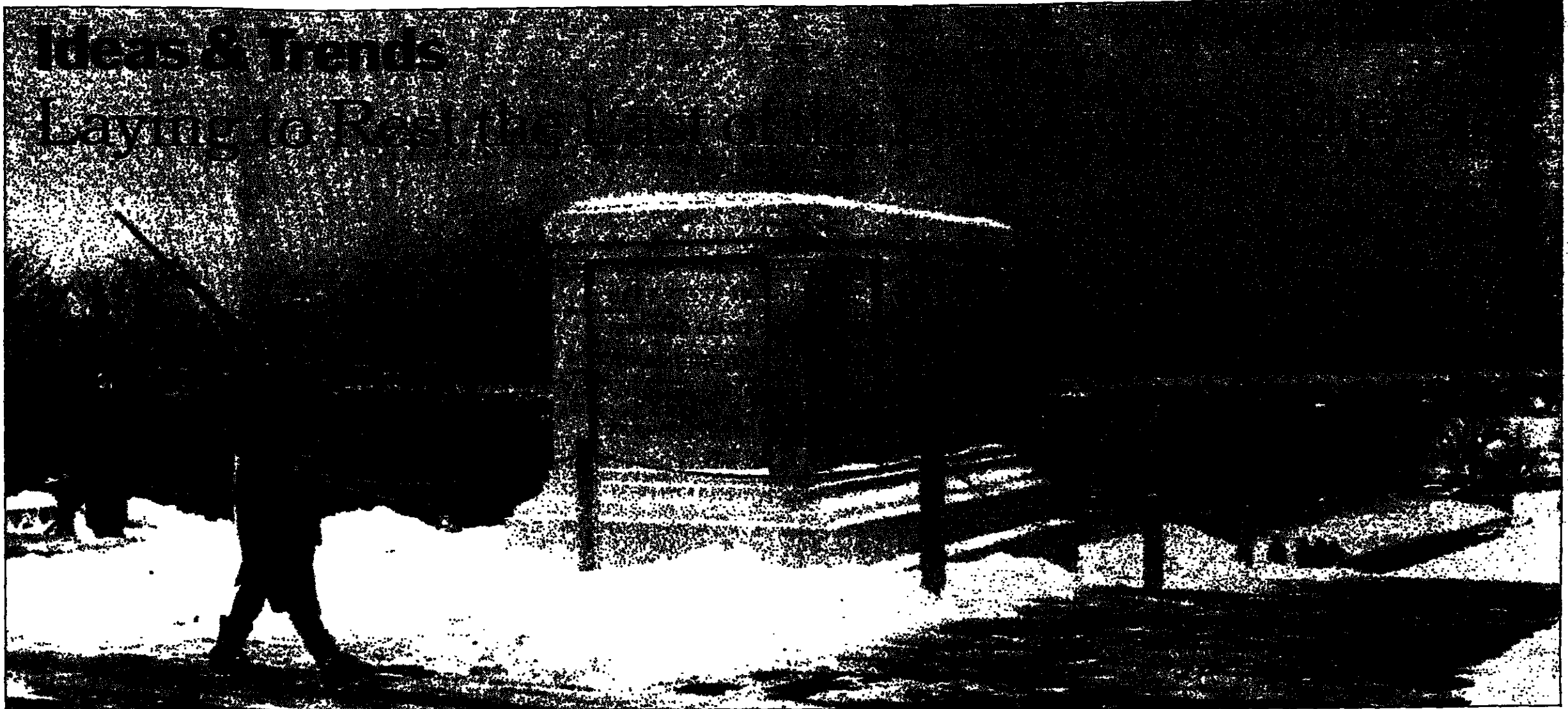
THE PRICE OF ARAB LIGHT CRUDE OIL IN 1998 DOLLARS PER BARREL



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; FOMC; Energy Intelligence Group; Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development

The New York Times





The Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia in 1934, soon after the memorial was unveiled. The tradition dates from the Civil War, when the remains of 2,011 unidentified soldiers were interred.

By STEVEN LEE MYERS

**P**RESIDING over the ceremony adding the remains of a soldier killed in Vietnam to the Tomb of the Unknowns in 1994, President Reagan vowed that the nation would never abandon its efforts to account for all those still missing from that divisive war.

"We write no last chapters," he said. "We close no books. We put away no final memories."

Just as well. Last week the Pentagon recommended reopening the tomb at Arlington National Cemetery, having concluded that DNA tests will very likely prove that the remains buried 14 years ago belong to one of two American pilots who were shot down over Vietnam on the same day in 1972.

If Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen approves the recommendation, as expected, the Pentagon may do more than close the book on the soldier known, officially, as the Unknown Serviceman from the Vietnam Conflict. It may also signal the end of a tradition of collective mourning as old as modern warfare.

The unknown soldier has always been much more than a memorial to those who died in war, stripped not only of life but of identity. Ever since the United States dedicated its Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Armistice Day in 1921, the remains have come to symbolize the nation's suffering as a whole.

The Tomb of the Unknowns itself has become one of the nation's most hallowed sites — infused with symbols and ritual, pathos and, at times, political meaning. When Mr. Reagan authorized the burial of an unknown soldier from the Vietnam War — some say he created a rush to find one — it was in an attempt at national reconciliation. "Let us, if we must, debate the lessons learned at some other time," he said, his voice cracking.

#### From a Wooden Cross

The United States created the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier a year after its allies from World War I unveiled similar memorials. In Britain, it was said the idea came from a chaplain at the front who spotted a crude wooden cross with "An Unknown British Soldier" scrawled across it.

The United States followed, but the American tradition was not new; in fact, there was already a tomb of the unknowns at Arlington. There, on a hill overlooking Washington, a granite sarcophagus marks the remains of 2,011 unidentified soldiers killed during the Civil War in the battles around Bull Run, only a few miles away. When they were buried in 1866, it was impossible to say if they were Union or Confederate soldiers, but the nation honored them together, as the memorial says, as a "noble army of martyrs."

Thomas L. Sherlock, the cemetery's historian, said it was the first burial of unknowns meant to honor something larger. They represented all soldiers who died in all battles. "It became more of a symbolic burial," he said. The Civil War left an astonishing number of un-

known soldiers — a third of the 350,000 who died. But the difficulty in identifying remains had as much to do with the paucity of records as the horrors of battle.

By World War I, record keeping got better, but war got worse. Weapons on the battlefields of France included machine guns and poison gas.

The selection of an unknown soldier became a ritual. Four sets of remains were disinterred from different American cemeteries in France. A highly decorated soldier selected one of the four by placing a white rose on the coffin. The unknown was given a state funeral and awarded the nation's highest medals for valor, even though his death could have been less than valorous.

After World War II, unidentified remains were chosen to represent both the European and the Pacific theaters. They were taken aboard the U.S.S. Canberra off the coast of Virginia, where one was chosen at random. Along with an unknown from Korea, chosen from among more than 800 unidentified graves at the Punchbowl National Cemetery in Hawaii, the unknown soldier of World War II was buried on Memorial Day 1958.

By then, the unknown soldier had become such a part of American lore that elaborate efforts were taken to insure that the identities would never be known. The soldier, not chosen aboard the Canberra was buried at sea, unknown in a still more profound way. And after each selection, all records have been destroyed; something that has haunted the Pentagon ever since questions arose about the identity of the Vietnam remains.

Modern science and modern sensibilities have overtaken the tradition of the unknowns. In Vietnam, extraordinary efforts were made to retrieve bodies from battle-

fields and, to this day, to identify them. The Pentagon announced just last week that it had three more Americans who died in Vietnam and Laos in the 1960's.

Death in war has become less symbolic, the country less willing to accept the idea that some who die will simply never be known.

Announcing the Pentagon's recommendation, Charles L. Cragin, an acting assistant secretary of defense, said officials had to face "the very profound and somewhat competing issues of the sanctity of the tomb and also our national commitment to a full accounting of the missing in action."

#### The Science of DNA

The remains of the Vietnam unknown — four ribs, the right humerus, part of the pelvis — were at first tentatively identified as those of First Lieut. Michael J. Blasse, a fighter pilot shot down near An Loc on May 11, 1972. In 1978, however, forensic analysis and blood tests suggested the remains could have belonged to another pilot, Capt. Rodney L. Strobridge, whose helicopter crashed nearby on the same day.

New methods of testing DNA, approved by the Pentagon in 1995, should be able to be conclusive. With all soldiers now giving blood samples when they join the military, officials say it is almost certain there will never be another unknown.

Whatever the outcome of the tests, however, Mr. Sherlock said the tomb would retain a hallowed place in the nation's psyche. "Because," he explained, "it honors sacrifice."

## Sometimes, Fat Women Have Lives

By PETER MARKS

**F**ORGET about butter substitutes. The real breakthrough for fat people this year is Camryn Manheim.

Ms. Manheim is by her own description a "large woman," and she plays one on TV. She is Ellenor Frutt, a funky, combative lawyer who wears 12 earrings in her right ear on "The Practice." David Kelley's hip hourlong legal drama, Monday nights on ABC. Ellenor is tough, canny, sensitive and, although she weighs more than 200 pounds, she's not the office joke or misfit. She doesn't wear floral muumus or have a chip on her shoulder or end up with story lines that inevitably brush up against the grotesque.

Plus, she's sexually active. Ellenor is a singular creation, unlike virtually any other large woman ever seen in prime-time drama. She's just another interesting person in an office filled with interesting characters. Her size is addressed, yes, but it is never patronized. She talks about the pain of double-takes and slurs hurled by strangers, of the terror of physical intimacy with a man that must ultimately entail the shedding of clothing.

#### Articulate, Brave and Large

"Large people are usually the funny, jolly clowns who never get hurt," said Ms. Manheim, a New York actress who appeared in her own one-woman show at the Joseph Papp Public Theater, a piece unapologetically titled "Wake Up, I'm Fat."

"I think this is the first time we see a large woman who is self-deprecating, who is articulate and brave enough to speak her mind, and does it with grace and class," she said. "And doesn't alienate people."

Ms. Manheim has broken the fat barrier. For a nation of people who would quickly be shown the door at a Calvin Klein photo call, Americans are amazingly unforgiving when it comes to judging one another's lumpy frames. And nowhere has the bias against heaviness — particularly in women — been more prevalent over the years than on those sleek television dramatic series, the shows that have become among the country's most influential forums for the examination of current ethical and social issues, as well as for defining fashion trends.

Men have always been given more of a pass in the girth department: In the fictional board rooms and conference rooms of televisionland, a bit of a paunch is a manly perk, the outward confirmation of accumulated wealth and power.

For women, however, cellulite has been synonymous with weakness, a certain recklessness and a lack of control incompatible with authority. Consider, for example, that when Richard Dysart, who played the



Camryn Manheim on the set of "The Practice."

benevolent (and paunchy) senior partner on "L.A. Law," was pushed aside by a woman, the 50-ish interloper (played by Diana Muldaur) was as toned as an extra in an exercise infomercial.

In its final stages, the series did make one large actress, Conchata Ferrell, a regular, but predictably, her character was an unwholesome mess whose caseload and life were never meant to be taken as seriously as, say, that of slender, earnest Susan Dey's.

It may be that assumptions about fitness and the desirability of eliminating it are so ingrained that Americans don't see such assumptions as in need of adjustment. Every racial and ethnic minority, not to mention people afflicted with everything from mental illness to dwarfism, have become sympathetic recurring characters on long-running series. The not-so-subliminal message is always the same: *vive la difference*.

Except where fat people are concerned. Look at the cast of "E.R.," the only place you ever find a heavy-set woman is on a gurney. And that is why Ms. Manheim is such a startling presence on "The Practice." She's sensible. She's attractive. She's admirable. The subplot in which Ellenor is currently entangled involves a romance with a chiropractor. He's a bit shady, and the other members of the firm are a little overprotective of Ellenor's feelings, but it's a real relationship, public displays of affection and all.

#### Candy in the Desk

Which is not to say that understanding how a large woman might feel has not been accomplished on a learning curve at "The Practice." In an interview last week, Ms. Manheim said that, occasionally, she has to be a kind of interpreter from the real world for the show's creators.

"One day, I get to the set and they want to put a bowl of candy on my desk," she recalled. "I said, 'Look, I'm going to let you in on a secret about fat girls: We don't keep candy on the desk, we keep it in the drawer.'"

And that's why, on Monday nights at 10 at least, there's no candy on the fat girl's desk.

#### Media Glamourfest

## The Dinner, the Heartburn

By FELICITY BARRINGER

**E**VERY year, Washington reporters congregate in droves at the White House Correspondents' Dinner and compete for the best guests as they invite the famous and the notorious to dine. Then every year, they spend days afterward wondering out loud what possessed them.

In an earlier era, this occasion, like dozens of others like it in City Halls and state capitals all over the country, was a quiet celebration by insiders. News organizations and the people they covered drank too much together, teased each other with skits and generally acted like members of the same club.

Then the public began to notice the coziness, which made a lot of journalists queasy. After all, they are supposed to be outsiders.

But the correspondents' dinner seems to have a life of its own. Far from pulling back, the White House Press corps is annually on display celebrating its own celebrity. News organizations bring stars and send their own. How many events are covered, after all, by both C-Span and Inside Edition?

#### Not Awful Enough

This, it seems, makes the participants feel awful, but not awful enough to stop going.

"We beat ourselves over the head constantly on panels about how we should be more serious and then we turn around and do this," lamented Sam Donaldson, the White House correspondent for ABC News, who was photographed at the dinner posing with the nation's most famous alleged sexual harasser, Paula Jones.

Last year the draw was the sitcom star Ellen DeGeneres, embracing her new flame Anne Heche. This year, Warren Beatty and Michael Douglas were there.

Oh, President and Mrs. Clinton were there. And Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright. And Secretary of Transportation Whasname. (It's Rodney Slater.) Plus many deputy assistant whatevers, invited by

news organizations who buy tickets for \$125 and tables for \$1,250.

Mr. Donaldson and others long for the days when the dinner was a way to reward sources or advertisers, the days when a reporter's idea of an in-your-face guest was Ralph Nader.

But if the dinner is such a travesty, why go?

"I am now once again the White House correspondent," Mr. Donaldson said. "To not go is something that would say to the company, 'I'll do this, but won't do all the work that goes along with it.'"

James Warren, Washington bureau chief of The Chicago Tribune, said tawdriness was part of the appeal. "It is sort of like a car crash," he said. "You're driving along the expressway and you don't want to look at it but you slow down and gawk and then say how horrible it was."

Mr. Warren's Tribune colleagues had a table at the Washington Hilton. ABC had a table there; The Washington Post had several. The New York

Times Washington bureau bought a table; The New York Times editorial board later denounced the spectacle in an editorial.

For Michael Kelly, a writer for The National Journal, it's simple: "These are our Oscars. Which is fine. I think the self-flagellation is silly."

Mr. Kelly cheerfully acknowledges changing the tenor of the evening with his invitation years ago to Oliver North's secretary, Fawn Hall.

"I go because I have to go," said Ewan Thomas, an assistant managing editor at Newsweek.

"We, the profession, go because our sources want to go," said Doyle McManus, the Washington bureau chief of The Los Angeles Times. "The event's celebrityhood has made it a hotter ticket across the board. It's weird. It's the distillation of the bizarre morphing of the Hollywood and Washington versions of celebrity."

"If I sought a deeper insight," he added, "I'd be unfaithful to the very shallowness of the occasion."



Matt Drudge, the Internet columnist, and Paula Jones at the dinner.

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## ECONOMY

## A Former King of Wall Street, in Search of Lesser Thrones

By PETER TRUETT

THE crowd of writers and public relations people just would not stop chattering one evening not long ago at Tavern on the Green. Over the clinking glasses and crockery in the glittery restaurant, the guest speaker, John H. Gutfreund — looking every bit the Wall Street mandarin with his tailored business suit, shiny pate and Calvin Klein bifocals — was having trouble making himself heard.

Before his precipitous fall from grace in 1991, amid a scandal over Treasury bond auctions, Mr. Gutfreund was like a monarch, ruling Salomon Brothers for almost a decade during its halcyon days as Wall Street's powerhouse securities firm. Now, his face gleaming under bright lights, he struggled through his prepared remarks, sometimes losing his place as he anguished about the current dizzying valuations in the stock market. And when he finished with a quip about the current scandal in Washington, there were polite titters, and even applause, but mostly the crowd was oblivious as the event's organizers appealed for quiet and questions.

It's tough being the former King of Wall Street.

In a society that hallows redemption, Mr. Gutfreund (pronounced GOOD-frend), at 68 years old, is try-

ing with such appearances to reestablish his public profile and bolster his second career as a businessman, financial adviser and venture capital investor.

At Gutfreund & Company, his consulting firm high above Fifth Avenue on 56th Street, the former titan is managing money for a prominent family — friends say it is Italy's Agnelli, of Fiat fame — and investing his own time and money in an intriguing if motley group of businesses, most of them small companies far from Wall Street and the big-money deal making that has, among other things, rendered Salomon into just one more piece of somebody else's financial kingdom.

These days, Mr. Gutfreund is a director, for example, of Foamex International, a manufacturer of polyurethane based in Linwood, Pa., with a market capitalization of less than \$500 million, and of Baldwin Piano and Organ, the maker of musical instruments in Loveland, Ohio. His investments include holdings in a bottled-water company, an operator of laser eye-surgery centers and the View Group, a small investment firm in Boston that is organizing a fund to seek opportunities in India.

In his richest days at Salomon, Mr. Gutfreund made as much as \$3 million a year. Today, while he will not say how much he is worth, the sum is clearly less than he ever expected a decade ago. Legal bills and related

costs of more than \$11 million forced him to sell his Salomon stock, and even then he failed to recover through arbitration more than \$15 million in vested stock options and pension benefits from his 38 years at the investment bank.

"I am more rich in goods than I am in money," he said, referring to his 16-room apartment on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue — worth at least \$15 million — and a pied-à-terre in Paris.

He is rich in friends, too, able to count on the support of a loyal coterie that includes such New York luminaries as the financiers Laurence A. Tisch, Marshall S. Cogan and Lionel L. Pincus, along with Brooke Astor, the philanthropist and society doyenne. And he has his charitable work, supporting the Aperture Foundation, a New York venture that publishes photography books, and serving as a board member of Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx and the New York Public Library.

"What I have learned, or at least belatedly remembered, is that there is the possibility of a satisfying life that is broader than the Street," he said. "All the pieces fit together over time. You use what you have."

WITH his fat cigars, his cunning and his pithy, often profane one-liners, Mr. Gutfreund built an image that personified the bravado of Salomon. Having become one of the grandest of Wall Street grandees, he then suffered one of the steepest falls of any financial giant in the modern era.

"It was like falling off the mountain," said Mr. Cogan, the businessman and art collector who once owned the "21" Club.

Mr. Gutfreund's second wife, Susan, a glamorous former Pan Am flight attendant 16 years his junior, lavishly entertained New York society after their marriage in 1981. Their well-chronicled extravagance ran to weekend Concorde trips to Paris and the rental of Britain's Blenheim Palace, the Churchill family's ancestral home, to throw a party for the financier Edmond Safra and several hundred guests.

"It's so expensive being rich," Susan Gutfreund reportedly told friends.

The opulent life ended abruptly in the summer of 1991 as it became clear that Mr. Gutfreund had failed to notify regulators — and his own board — quickly enough of the false bids submitted in Treasury bond auctions by Paul W. Mozer, a Salomon managing director, who served four months in Federal prison. Mr. Gutfreund resigned his posts; Warren E. Buffett, the billionaire investor who had bought into Salomon at Mr. Gutfreund's suggestion, took control of the firm to protect his substantial stake.

To the public, Mr. Gutfreund became a symbol for Wall Street's arrogance and avarice. Regulators eventually would rule that he could never again run an American securities business and Mr. Gutfreund paid a \$100,000 fine.

Even today, his explanation of those events comes up far short of a full-throated mea culpa. "I perhaps mistakenly did what I thought was best for the company," Mr. Gutfreund said. "I am slow to do unpleasant things. I think I probably was a procrastinator at that time."

As if repeating a catechism that will explain the past, he often says simply, "I wanted to be the best; and I wanted my firm to be the best."

That is a stance with which much of Wall Street can find sympathy. "Many people in the financial community have the sense that John Gutfreund was the scapegoat for the troubles at Salomon," said Jonathan J. Everett, a managing director of the View Group, where Mr. Gutfreund became a founding investor in 1993. "Because of that, he has the capacity to rebuild his career in the financial community."

What of Mr. Gutfreund's failure to blow the whistle on the Treasury scandal — an episode that could have undermined Salomon's future?

Friends see that as mostly someone else's fault. "It seems he was listening to legal advice that may have been wrong," Mr. Cogan said.

After years of wounded seclusion, Mr. Gutfreund is now opening up



John and Susan Gutfreund's once opulent social life, thought to be an inspiration for "The Bonfire of the Vanities," has calmed considerably.

With his friend Robert L. Dilenschneider, the public relations man, as his adviser, he agreed to talk in a series of conversations about his efforts to restore himself. The ground rules were clear: Mr. Gutfreund would not, one of Mr. Dilenschneider's deputies said, spend much time discussing two subjects — the Treasury scandal and his wife.

Yet within minutes of sitting down to the first interview, Mr. Gutfreund let drop, with a coy smile, that he and Susan had been tapping their feet at one of the Rolling Stones' concerts last winter in New York. It is little wonder, perhaps, that John and Susan Gutfreund were widely believed to have been models for the Bavarages, the Wall Street society couple in "The Bonfire of the Vanities," Tom Wolfe's satirical novel of New York in the mid-1980's.

MR. GUTFREUND, of course, rejects such characterizations. "I have never been a social lion; I was misidentified as one because I have a very attractive second wife," he said — a wife whose detractors, he added, are motivated by jealousy and envy. And he seeks to play down the regal reputation he acquired in the 1980's: "I never thought of myself as a king. People really want you to be the deity. They forget the fact that you are a person who has feelings and doubts."

The Gutfreunds' social life has calmed considerably. They usually spend their weekends with their 13-year-old son, John Peter, at their rented house near Villanova, outside Philadelphia; Susan Gutfreund has renovated and furnished the home. Philadelphia is quieter, less grasping and certainly less expensive than Manhattan. "People in Philadelphia are a world apart from New York," Mr. Gutfreund said approvingly. These days, Mr. Gutfreund even sniffs at Wall Street for its greed and shortsightedness. "You'll find many, many short-term mercenaries there," he said. Big securities houses, he said, look out for themselves and not their customers. "Trading is now no longer a service for many of these firms," he complained.

Mr. Gutfreund talks enthusiastically, though, about his new venture capital investments. Aquapenn Spring Water, the Milesburg, Pa., bottled-water company in which he has \$100,000 invested (and gets 1,500 shares a year as a director), is "a small business that's doing extremely well," he said.

Aquapenn's founder, Edward J. Lauth 3d, who met Mr. Gutfreund through Mr. Dilenschneider, loves having the former Wall Streeter on his board. "What we appreciate in central Pennsylvania is people who are forthright and upfront, and that's what John is," said Mr. Lauth, chairman and president of the company, which has 225 employees. The two men talk weekly, and Mr. Lauth said Mr. Gutfreund is "a terrific resource," particularly for his focus on shareholder value and his handling of Aquapenn's negotiations with Paine Webber and Lazard Frères, the securities firms that underwrote Aquapenn's stock offering.

In his new career, however, Mr. Gutfreund sometimes behaves more like a young venture capitalist than a Wall Street maven. One January day, for example, he caught a dawn flight to Cincinnati to attend board meetings at the headquarters of

LCA-Vision, the laser-surgery company where he holds a stake of less than 5 percent. No Wall Street luxury here; Mr. Gutfreund fetched his own coffee and Danish during the meetings and flew coach back to New York that afternoon.

Stephen N. Joffe, a professor of surgery in Cincinnati who met Mr. Gutfreund in 1995 and whose family controls LCA-Vision, described the former investment banker as his "right hand in advising on making strategic decisions." LCA-Vision's stock has been volatile in an industry that has never caught on with investors; the company expects to report positive cash flow for the first time by the end of this year.

PERHAPS the world has come full circle. John Gutfreund grew up far from Wall Street. His father, Manuel — friends called him Buddy — ran a successful meat-trucking business in Manhattan that allowed the family to move to Westchester County. Mr. Gutfreund attended high school in Scarsdale and then transferred to the Lawrenceville School, a prep school in New Jersey. He attended Oberlin College in Ohio, where he studied literature and drama, and then served in the military in Korea.

An interview with William R. Salomon, scion of the securities firm's founding family — and Buddy Gutfreund's sometime golf partner — led to a start at Salomon for Mr. Gutfreund in 1953. He readily took to the Wall Street life, rising through the firm's municipal securities business. In 1958 he married Joyce Low, the daughter of a partner at Bear Stearns, and in 1963, he made partner at Salomon, acquiring a reputation for being a shrewd judge of risk and the pricing of securities.

"He was hard-working and intelligent," recalled Mr. Salomon, 84, whose father and two uncles founded the firm. "He got there early and stayed late."

Indeed, the first Mrs. Gutfreund and the couple's three young sons sometimes took second place to his work. "I probably didn't give my older children as much time as I could have," he says now. But with Mr. Gutfreund steering much of the firm's trading business, Salomon rose through the Wall Street ranks. Once his rival, William E. Simon, departed for Washington, eventually to become Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Gutfreund became deputy to Mr. Salomon, succeeding him as the firm's senior partner in 1978.

Less than three years later, Mr. Gutfreund sold the partnership to the commodities firm Philipp Brothers and quickly came to dominate the combined firm. "I was very upset; I felt betrayed," Mr. Salomon recalled, explaining that he had left the firm in Mr. Gutfreund's hands "in the hope and expectation that we would remain a general partnership for a long time."

Judith Ramsey Ehrlich and Barry J. Rehfeld, who detailed Mr. Gutfreund's career in their 1989 book, "The New Crowd: The Changing of the Jewish Guard on Wall Street," (Little, Brown) asserted that Mr. Gutfreund grew increasingly rapacious after his 1981 marriage to Susan. "The kind of money required to put his bride and himself on the social map was buried in the Salomon Brothers' partnership," the book said. "Susan understood that lots of money was needed by people

who otherwise lacked the social credentials for a beachhead in celebrity society and perhaps even in high society."

Mr. Gutfreund severely criticized the book, calling it "full of inaccuracies" and adding that its authors had not interviewed him.

FINANCES seem to play their part in driving Mr. Gutfreund's current pursuit of business and a higher profile. His most successful investment, he says half-jokingly, has been the money he left at Warburg Pincus, the mutual fund company run by his old friend, Mr. Pincus. And his costliest decision may have come in late 1982, when he rejected Salomon's severance offer of about \$3.5 million — a little more than half what he believed he was owed in vested options and pension benefits held by the firm. He went to arbitration, seeking as much as \$30 million. The arbitration panel gave him nothing.

"He played these tough-guy images through to the end," said William A. McIntosh, who ran Salomon's bond sales and trading department, recalling Mr. Gutfreund's long wrangle with the firm. "It cost him."

Mr. Gutfreund refuses to second-guess himself. "Do I regret?" he said. "No, I don't. I made a mistake and that is that."

Making the change from Salomon and its quarrelsome barons to managing money and investing it successfully is difficult, as Mr. Gutfreund readily acknowledged. He is resolutely bullish about the financial markets and the low returns that he has made in recent years on financial investments (a 2 percent gain last year on a global bond fund and a big loss on his investment in the View Group, which is starting the fund for India, for example) indicate that he has largely stayed away from the equity markets.

"I advise one group," he said of his money management clientele, declining to confirm his friends' identification of the client as the Agnelli. Those same friends say Mr. Gutfreund's arrangement with the client gives him 10 percent of all investing profits, offering a steady income.

"I've never done this before," Mr. Gutfreund said. "It's been a terrific learning experience."

Pursuing a second career at an age when many Wall Streeters have retreated to gated retirement communities takes courage, Mr. Gutfreund's supporters say. "I admire the guy more now than before," said Terrence J. English, chairman of Sovkhin, an investment firm based in Manhattan and specializing in Russia. "If he was Japanese, he would have shot himself."

Mr. English, who has known Mr. Gutfreund since the 1980's, when they both worked at Salomon, said that he had not paid his old colleague much for years of useful advice. "I've smoked more of his cigars than he has of mine," Mr. English said. "I think more than anything else he misses the opportunity to contribute and be part of the game."

Mr. Gutfreund's legendary aloofness — some would say hauteur — surfaces even when he talks about such allies. "He used to work for us," Mr. Gutfreund said when asked about Mr. English — "us" being Salomon.

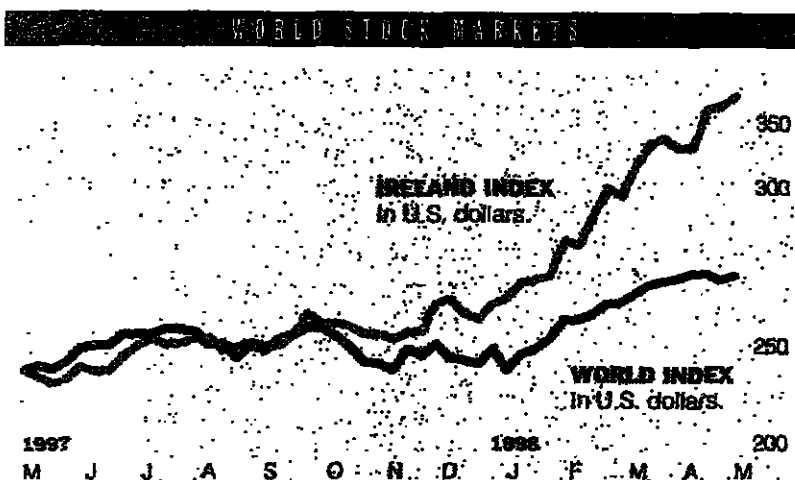
The securities firm is an awkward subject for Mr. Gutfreund. "My network is not Salomon; it's people in the real world," he retorted dismissively when asked how much he sees former colleagues.

But if the scars from his fall have left Mr. Gutfreund a tad humbler, they are surely permanent. "Unfortunately," Mr. Salomon said, "however hard he tries, the words 'treasury scandal' will be in the first line of his obituary."

In any event, Mr. Gutfreund's fascination with earthly power still sometimes seems undimmed.

Asked about his leisure pursuits, Mr. Gutfreund lamented a lack of time for reading books but added that he enjoyed listening to books on tape during his weekly drives to and from Villanova.

What had he listened to the previous weekend? Machiavelli's "The Prince."



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS					IN LOCAL CURR.				
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	% Chg.	YTD
Australia	213.29	-1.8	23	6.6	22	3.58	217.39	6.4	
Austria	234.97	-0.2	17	24.3	11	1.51	217.22	23.0	
Belgium	330.91	0.6	13	30.0	6	2.42	299.63	28.9	
Brazil	256.13	-0.7	21	7.4	21	1.93	539.16	10.1	
Britain	393.11	2.3	5	16.5	13	2.80	349.81	17.0	
Canada	246.37	0.8	11	16.0	15	1.57	255.34	16.0	
Denmark	506.15	0.7	12	13.1	19	1.29	467.18	12.1	
Finland	435.93	1.0	9	56.5	1	1.82	493.94	55.2	
France	308.45	3.4	1	28.9	7	2.04	288.35	27.7	
Germany	277.19	0.0	16	20.8	12	1.28	256.41	19.6	
Hong Kong	319.05	-3.5	25	-10.6	27	4.98	317.39	-9.0	
Indonesia	49.33	-13.2	28	-25.3	28	2.91	242.83	10.6	
Ireland	555.37	1.4	7	38.3	3	1.76	553.02	39.3	
Italy	159.55	-0.5	19	35.6	5	1.27	209.26	34.7	
Japan	95.42	-3.1	24	0.1	23	0.99	80.25	2.5	
Malaysia	187.33	0.9	10	13.9	18	2.61	264.60	7.4	
Mexico	1,695.45	0.1	15	-6.0	26	1.47	15,748.23	-0.9	
Netherlands	517.42	3.3	2	26.2	9	1.95	473.14	24.8	
New Zealand	72.47	-4.7	27	-5.2	24	4.70	69.42	-0.7	
Norway	348.13	-0.7	20	9.0	20	1.79	349.47	9.3	
Philippines	93.08	-3.7	26	17.3	14	1.12	186.71	18.4	
Singapore	212.29	2.3	4	-5.7	25	1.93	154.91	-11.4	
South Africa	339.54	0.5	14	27.9	8	2.37	374.85	32.8	
Spain	382.04	2.1	6	40.6	2	1.75	437.29	39.3	
Sweden	584.12	-0.2	18	24.4	10	1.76	664.66	20.5	
Switzerland	384.22	2.4	3	15.7	18	1.11	364.55	18.3	
Thailand	26.41	-1.5	22	36.9	4	7.91	39.46	9.4	
United States	458.10	1.1	8	15.6	17	1.40	458.10	15.6	

COMPOSITE INDICES				
Europe	355.87	1.8	23.1	2.01
Pacific Basin	105.59	-2.9	-0.3	1.67
Europe/Pacific	209.91	0.3	15.1	1.91
World	292.71	0.8	15.3	1.64

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close.  
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CURRENCIES				
Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	133.13	131.16	+1.50	126.70
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.7799	1.7895	-0.54	1.7296
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.4346	1.4350	-0.01	1.3902
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6681	1.6692	-0.66	1.6217

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets, exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

## UPS AND DOWNS

## April 27-May 1: Reports of Inflation-Free Growth Dispel Rate-Rise Worries

## PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES	
Broad market	Up 1.18%
S & P 500 index	1,121.00
Blue chips	Up 0.91%
Dow 30 industrials	9,147.07
Small capitalization	Up 0.96%
Russell 2000 index	484.94

DOMESTIC BONDS	
Treasuries	Up 0.12%
Ryan Labs. Total Return	217.36
Municipals	Down 0.30%
Bond Buyer index	121.22
Corporates	Up 0.17%
Merrill Lynch Master index	957.29

AROUND THE WORLD	
European stocks	Up 1.78%
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	355.87
Asian stocks	Down 2.94%
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	105.59
Gold	Down 3.37%
New York cash price	\$303.80

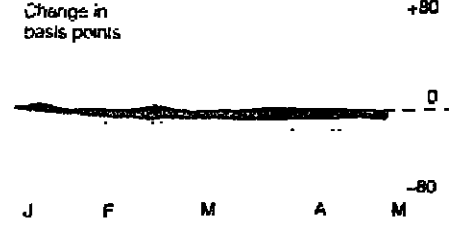
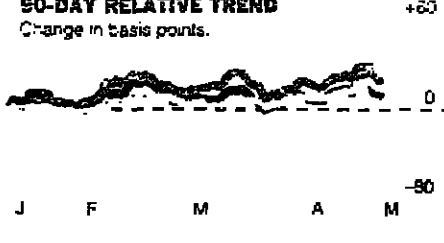
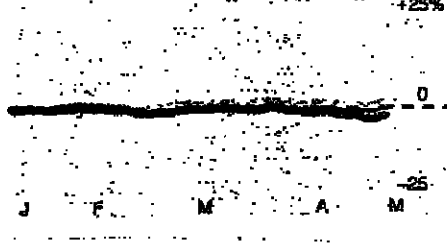
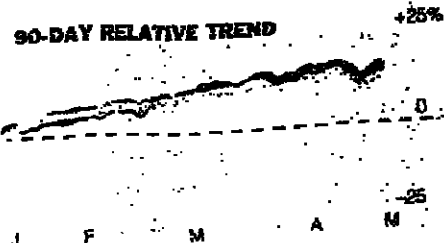
Foreign indexes are given in dollar terms.

## YIELDS

BONDS	
Long bonds	5.93%
30-year Treasuries	Down 1 basis pt.
Notes	5.56%
2-year Treasuries	Down 2 basis pts.
Municipals	5.37%
Bond Buyer index	Up 3 basis pts.

10 basis points = 1 percentage point.

OTHER INVESTMENTS	
Money market funds	5.00%
Taxable average	Down 2 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s	4.99%
1-year small savers	Up 1 basis pt.
Stocks	1.42%
S & P 500 dividend yield	Down 2 b.p.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs.



# The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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## Promise and Pitfalls of the Euro

Eleven of the fifteen members of the European Union are preparing to discard their marks, francs, francs and other national currencies by 2002 in favor of a new currency, called the euro. Their goal is to boost economic growth and political ties. But the euro could backfire, trapping unlucky regions in recession and triggering political resentment when no authority comes to the rescue. Americans can hope that the brash policy works because prosperity in Europe helps the United States grow, even if the rise of the euro diminishes the international clout of the dollar.

By adopting the euro, every country in the European Union except Britain, Sweden, Denmark and Greece would create the kind of common currency in Europe that Americans take for granted with the dollar. The euro is likely to boost economic activity by cutting the cost of buying and selling. Rather than juggling 11 different yardsticks, consumers can instantly compare the price of goods in Finland, Italy and other countries in between. The euro also eliminates the risk for investors that exchange rates will fluctuate and sabotage long-term contracts.

But a single currency also poses risks, because it robs countries of control over their own economies. If the French economy takes a nose dive, the Government can pump in francs, devalue the franc or cut taxes and raise spending. But under the euro, France would have no francs to inject into the economy or to devalue and would operate

under rules that severely limit deficit spending.

Unlike the United States, where citizens commonly move from one state to another in search of economic opportunity, Europeans are unlikely to migrate to countries with different languages, cultures and laws. If the French economy slows, and the European central bank does nothing because the rest of Europe is thriving, the French may be resentful. A policy designed to unify Europe could intensify divisions instead.

If the euro boosts the European economy, it will also boost America's. But to the extent that it replaces the dollar as the currency of international trade, it will also trim some real financial benefits that come from America's current role as the world's banker. But the threat is small. The best guess puts the loss at a few billion dollars a year, nothing to fret about in an \$8 trillion economy.

A more amorphous threat is political. If managed properly, the euro could assume an international presence comparable to the dollar's. There would be pressure on the Europeans to create a political body able to manage the euro for international purposes, like the bailout of South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand led by the United States. Some in the United States welcome the political evolution of the European Union as a way to lighten the United States' economic and political burdens. Others fear Europe's potential political clout. The impact of this momentous decision goes way beyond economics in unpredictable directions.

## Ellis Island's Other Side

Since 1954, when Ellis Island was closed, its south side has lain untouched and neglected. The buildings have fallen into disrepair, including a hospital and confinement wards for immigrants who were too sick to pass directly through the main entrance on the north side. Water percolates through roofs and along walls. Corridors are lined with broken glass and upstart weeds. To the ghostliness of the empty rooms — filled, it almost seems, with the memory of the sick and dying who once lay there — nature has added its own ghostliness, compounding neglect with invasion. It can be hard to remember that just a few years ago the north side of Ellis Island — now fully restored and America's third most popular national park — looked just as forlorn.

No one is quite certain what to do with the south side of Ellis Island. But unless the buildings there are stabilized, their decay arrested, there will be no need to discuss their future at all. They will simply

collapse. In fact, the World Monuments Fund has listed the south side of Ellis Island as "one of the world's most threatened culturally significant historic sites." At nominal cost, the New York Landmarks Conservancy has performed a model stabilization on one building. They did just enough work — patching gutters, pulling down vines, repairing roof tiles — to halt further erosion and to create a 15-year window in which to plan for the building's future. Work of this kind is not nearly as glamorous as the renovation that was done on the north side, but it is vital nonetheless.

According to a new National Park Service report, the estimated cost of stabilizing the major buildings on the south side of Ellis Island is about \$6.5 million. If Congress provides the money, the future of Ellis Island's south side can be debated at a later time. If Congress does not act, the ultimate fate of this historic site will already have been decided.

## Changing Lives Over the Summer

Growing up is difficult in neighborhoods where the streets are crowded and unsafe. For children in this stifling confinement, two weeks on a farm, in camp or in a rural community are more than a vacation. The new surroundings and friendships change how children see the world and themselves.

Since its inception in 1877, the Fresh Air Fund has provided this opportunity for more than 1.6 million of New York City's neediest children. This summer, the independent, nonprofit fund hopes to place more than 10,000 more, sending some to rural camps but most to the homes of volunteer families spread over a dozen states and Canada. Many Fresh Air Fund children form lasting relationships with the families they visit, returning summer after summer. The fund has added a Career Awareness

Program, where adolescents improve their problem-solving skills, study fashion, dance and photography, and learn to use computers.

The host families open their homes freely, but the fund needs to raise money for transportation, insurance and administrative expenses. A two-week visit to a "Friendly Town" family costs \$388; a trip to a fund camp costs \$976. Last year, the fund received gifts totaling \$4.3 million. This year it hopes to raise a half million dollars more.

More than 80 percent of the fund's operating budget comes from individual contributions. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to the Fresh Air Fund, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10018. Families wishing to be Friendly Town hosts may call (800) 367-0003.

### Editorial Notebook

## The Rich, the Gray and the Female

### California's Tired Old Parties Ride Into the Sunset, Expensively

LOS ANGELES  
Lieut. Gov. Gray ("Experience Money Can't Buy") Davis put his first commercials on the air recently, and instantly zoomed toward the top of the polls in the race for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. Aides to one of Mr. Davis's adversaries, Al ("New Ideas") Checchi, who has been running TV ads since last Thanksgiving, claimed the polls were just reflecting the voters' ephemeral interest in a new face. It is only in California that Mr. Davis, who has been a fixture in state government for 22 years, could be regarded as a fresh commodity. But political operatives here do not regard anything as real until it appears in a commercial. I air, therefore I am.

California, always a trend setter, is way ahead of most of the country when it comes to dismantling the traditional two-party system. The Republican and Democratic establishment, which survives elsewhere on a thin gruel of habit and incumbency, is nearly gone here. The June primaries will now be open to all registered voters, who can choose the contests they're most interested in from one all-inclusive ballot. The State Legislature, a last bastion of party power in many states, is beginning to feel the effects of California's new term limits. "It's gonna be like 'Lord of the Flies' up there," predicts Mr. Checchi cheerfully. A mega-businessman who didn't vote in the last gubernatorial primary, Mr. Checchi says he has been pursuing the Democratic nomination for more than two years without ever having any contact with the Democratic Party.

The great paradox of California's foray into participatory democracy is that it is taking place in a state where interest in politics is very low, and the barriers between a candidate and the public are very high. On the one hand, you have very strict term limits in the State Legislature, which are aimed at driving the professional politicians out of Sacramento. On the other, you have the fact that it now costs approximately \$2 million to run for a contested state senate seat. The voters get almost all their information from television, but the TV stations do not like to cover campaigns. "We hope at least they'll run a story — somewhere between breast augmentation and the impotence pill," said Kam Kawata, the spokesman for Representative Jane Harman.

The three Democratic candidates for governor each have different theories about how they can take advantage of the dissolving political culture. Ms. Harman is betting that the voters will glom onto gender, the one difference they can figure out just by looking at the ballot. Mr. Davis is betting on a low turnout of the old party faithful. His campaign director, Gary South, notes that if voters stick to tradition, the next California governor will be an aging male career politician. The previous incumbents "look a hell of a lot more like Gray Davis than Al Checchi or Jane Harman," he tells people. The idea that voters will be searching for another George Deukmejian seems to be embodied in Mr. Davis's first ads, in which he looks very gray indeed.

Mr. Checchi is betting on change, and Republican and independent crossover voters. To be on the safe side, he is investing \$500,000 a week in TV air time in Los Angeles alone. He is on the tube almost as often as "Seinfeld" reruns, and his name recognition has gone up from 1 percent to 72 percent.

## Could Israel Ever Be a 'Nation Like Others'?

To the Editor:  
Geoffrey Wheatcroft (Op-Ed, April 30) writes that "Israel is not, and has never been... a nation like others" because Zionism was intended to be "as much a psychological and social as a political project." However, this characterization obscures the tension between myth and reality.

Israel's aspiration to erect a "light unto nations" and to secure Jewish normalcy has often been thwarted by political imperatives, including threats to its existence and the hardship of assimilating Jews from disparate backgrounds.

While international Jewry has encouraged the notion of Israeli exceptionalism, it is appropriate to question whether this view still serves Zionism's original ideological ends. To the Israeli right, Jewish exceptionalism connotes something else entirely. But is Israel's predicament attributable to the status of Jews as the most reviled people in human history, or to the geopolitical concerns that would beset any small, fledgling nation established on contested land?

MATTHEW S. SCHWEIKER  
New York, April 30, 1998

chological damage on any children involved and will impede reconciliation. (Rabbi) BRUCE M. COHEN  
Intl. Dir., Interns for Peace  
New York, April 29, 1998

### Apology Never Given

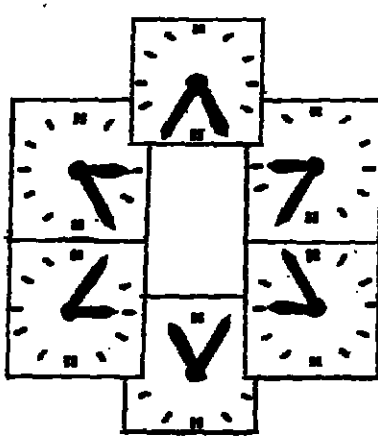
To the Editor:  
Your "Israel at 50" series (front page, April 30) omitted remembrance of a great tragedy. On April 13, 1948, a convoy of doctors, nurses and patients from Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital was ambushed by Arab attackers as it tried to make its way to safety. Seventy-six people in the convoy were killed, including Dr. Haim Yassky, the hospital's director.

Even so, politics has never affected hospital policy. Since 1913 Hadassah's medical facilities have always served the Arab population as well as the Jewish population. On the road to the hospital, a memorial stands to honor the slain. Yet no official statement of regret has ever come forward.

CHARLOTTE JACOBSON  
New York, April 30, 1998  
The writer is a past national president of Hadassah.

### Intifada's Victims

To the Editor:  
The time line in your April 30 front-page article on Israel cites the



Ignorance

### Mural Is Misconceived

To the Editor:  
Re "Jews and Arabs, Painting a Mural Together, Find a Mosaic of Mistrust" (news article, April 28):

After 22 years of training conflict resolution workers who united Jews and Arabs in community development projects in Israel and Palestinian Gaza, I understand how a "noble plan" failed to build trust.

The project's name, "The World Wall: A Vision of the Future Without Fear," conjures up past division done by Jews and Arabs to each other. The retreat setting in the United States leads to elitism and a loss of touch with one's own community. Ethnic imbalance leads to two Arabs gang-banging up on one Jew.

I was alarmed to read that the artists plan to collaborate next on a mosaic of children's images. Unless altered, the project may inflict psy-

### A Simpler Starr Strategy

To the Editor:  
The wonder about Judge Norma Holloway Johnson's ruling that Monica S. Lewinsky and Kenneth W. Starr, the independent counsel, did not have an immunity agreement (front page, April 30) is that it took so long. By now, many people have lost interest.

To indict and convict an ordinary 24-year-old woman for perjury and witness tampering would not be a valuable trophy for Mr. Starr. Knowing this, Ms. Lewinsky has little to fear and should not worry about choosing either version of the truth: her exalted confidences with Linda R. Tripp or her sworn denial of an affair.

Mr. Starr should pursue President Clinton simply through statements Ms. Lewinsky has already made. Let the Secret Service agents and bookstore records go, and assert an affair that most people do not need a snooking gun to believe in.

VICTOR CHEN  
New York, April 30, 1998

### Divorce and the Church

To the Editor:  
While I sympathize with Sheila Rauch Kennedy, I would like to point out a number of inaccuracies in her May 1 Op-Ed article on annulment. First, she fails to distinguish between marriage as a social institution and marriage as a sacrament when entered into by two baptized Christians. The Roman Catholic Church's annulment process determines only whether the sacramental bond was established when two baptized Christians wed. It says nothing about the reality of the relationship of the couple or the legitimacy of their children.

Second, there is no American Catholic Church. There is the Roman Catholic Church that happens to be in the United States — the same church as in every corner of the world.

Third, while it is true that Catholics who remarry without the benefit of an annulment may not receive Holy Communion, they may always receive the sacrament of penance (confession). That is the divinely ordained means, as Catholics believe, by which they are to be reconciled to God and to the church. (Rev.) BRIAN MULCAHY  
Youngstown, Ohio, May 1, 1998

### To the Editor:

Re "U.S. Catholics and the Annulment Dilemma" (Op-Ed, May 1): Sheila Rauch Kennedy's agonizing over the semantic nuances between an annulment and a divorce strikes me as quaint at best. She is free to believe in whatever she chooses. She isn't free, however, to insist that all those who share her religion accept her beliefs simply because she wants to be able to marry a Roman Catholic. Far from being barred from Communion if they remarry, divorced Catholics are welcome to receive Communion in any number of Protestant churches.

ALAN MILES  
New York, May 1, 1998

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

### Immigrant Children Thrive in English Immersion

To the Editor:  
Your April 30 editorial criticizing Proposition 227, and its call for replacing bilingual classes in public schools with a year of English immersion, ignore the gift children have for learning languages. Experience shows that immersion is the best way to learn a language. Granted, one year may not be sufficient to master a language, but a child will have the rest of his life to do that.

At age 11 I was put in a fourth-grade classroom in an Army elementary school in Germany. Until then, I spoke French and my family spoke French. As expected, I was bewildered, but soon I had a circle of friends. Within a few weeks I kept up with the class work, and in a few months I was proficient in English. My multiculturalism did not suffer. I still speak, read and write French fluently, and I now work for an American-based global company. So I ask, How can Proposition 227 "not help California's 1.3 million bilingual students enter the mainstream any quicker?"

FRANK VERNET  
Ann Arbor, Mich., April 30, 1998

### Let Educators Decide

To the Editor:  
I disagree with your argument in an April 30 editorial that more money would make bilingual education successful. I do, however, agree that educational policy ought to be set by educators, not by a ballot proposition.

The problem is that bilingual education did not originate with educators. It came from Washington bureaucrats, whose raison d'être is creating new programs. A big step toward improving public school education would be to give local educators more freedom to conduct classes in ways that are most effective for their students.

DAVID SKURNICK  
Montville, N.J., April 30, 1998

### Money Isn't the Solution

To the Editor:  
Your support of continued experimentation with costly bilingual programs (editorial, April 30) is a perfect example of the liberal route to a nonsolution of the language problems in California public education. As a former community college instructor in a school serving mostly Hispanic students, I found that California high school graduates lacked the language abilities needed to succeed even at a community college. My "successes" had mastered

1987-88 intifada. While you note the loss of Palestinian lives, you fail to mention the hundreds of Israelis who were killed by Palestinian terrorists during the intifada. Since the Arabs were the perpetrators of the intifada, shouldn't their victims warrant mention?

ALIZA REICHER  
Teaneck, N.J., April 30, 1998

### Still Not Full Citizens

To the Editor:  
As to whether the 160,000 Palestinian Arabs who remained within the new state of Israel in 1948 were "internal refugees" (front page, April 23) or "full citizens" (letter, April 25), some facts might prove helpful.

Until 1966 those who remained lived under harsh military rule. In addition, 81,000 were designated "present absentees" and permanently denied the right to return to their homes. While they were granted citizenship, their land (750,000 acres) was confiscated by the state, along with their homes, shops, furniture and bank deposits.

Today, Palestinian-Israelis represent almost 20 percent of Israel's population. Some still live in dozens of unrecognized villages, where they are granted identity cards but no further recognition and no services.

HILDA B. SILVERMAN  
Cambridge, Mass., April 30, 1998

### Expelled by Arabs

To the Editor:  
You refer (front page, April 30) to the "dispossession of another people, the Palestinians, millions of whom still live as refugees" as a result of the creation of the state of Israel.

What is missing from your article is the plight of nearly a million Jews from Arab countries expelled from their homes from 1948 to 1952. They were forced to leave with just the clothes on their backs. Left behind and confiscated by Arab governments were billions of dollars of assets. There has never been restitution for these losses.

HOWARD BARBANEL  
New York, April 30, 1998

### Wired for Learning

To the Editor:  
Re your April 30 editorial on bilingual education: Twelve years ago my wife and I adopted three Korean children who came to this country at ages 13, 10 and 7 not speaking a word of English. After three days sleeping off their jet lag, they were enrolled in public school at the grade levels appropriate to their ages. They had minimal English as a Second Language instruction and spoke Korean to each other for the first month or so after arriving. In less than a year they were all superior students — fluent in English reading, speaking and writing. Their best English learning tool? We got them their own phone line to talk to their friends.

WILLIAM BASOW  
Fort Collins, Colo., April 30, 1998

### Schools Benefit All

To the Editor:  
The call for tax credits for those who choose not to send their children to public schools seems a bit strange (editorial, April 26). Following the same logic, if I do not call the police this year, I should get a credit for that portion of my taxes that pays for law enforcement. If I do not drive a car, I should get a credit for that portion that pays for roads.

Schools are a service provided by and paid for by the community, and a large portion of real estate value is based upon the school district in which the property is located. If a member of the community chooses to use a service other than the one offered by the community, the cost of that additional service falls totally upon the user.

MIKE BERKE  
Rochester, April 30, 1998

### Bankruptcy Reform

To the Editor:  
Elizabeth Warren's statement (Op-Ed, April 27) that bankruptcy reform would put credit card debt on a par with child support payments is false. Current law gives payments of child support and alimony priority over credit card debts, even debts incurred by fraud. The legislation reinforces that concept of paying child support before anything is paid to credit card debt.

Our bankruptcy system is flawed because people who have enough income to repay at least some of what they owe are allowed to walk away from their debts. Ms. Warren opposes reforms that would return responsibility to bankruptcy. She offers no reason why she believes that middle-class families should bear the burden for irresponsible higher income borrowers.

BILL MCCOLEMAN  
Member of Congress, 8th Dist., Fla.  
Washington, April 29, 1998

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## Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

## What, Me Scary?

Call me touchy. But didn't the President describe me as a castrating word-that-rhymes-with-rich?

He did it in a joking way, during his stand-up routine at the White House Correspondents Association dinner last weekend.

But as Freud noted, humor is simply hostility masquerading as wit. Mr. Clinton entertained the room by reading a list of mock headlines by or about real journalists.

"George Mitchell writes about the prospects of lasting peace between Barbara Walters and Diane Sawyer," he said. "A Retrospective: CBS News From Murrow to Molinari." "Buddy Got What He Deserved," by Maureen Dowd.

As the audience laughed, I ducked down, praying the C-Span cameras were still on Paula Jones.

"Now everyone will think I'm a castrating witch," I complained to my male colleagues at the table.

"Now?" they replied in unison. My friends said I should be happy the President mentioned me.

But he might have better aimed the barb at Ms. Jones's relentless sidekick, Susan Carpenter-McMillan, since she has just become the head of a national campaign for chemical castration of sex offenders.

Besides, I hadn't even wanted poor Buddy to go under the knife. Although I have written that some restraint might be needed at the White House, I was never talking about the pox. The Lab had plenty of room to roam and the Secret Service was there to make sure he didn't grope unsuspecting females.

I understand the President's remarks were all in the service of satire, a cause I cherish. Yet I wondered: Would the same joke have worked if Mr. Clinton had put a scalpel — or whatever they use to deprive dogs of their manhood — into the hands of Tom Friedman or David Broder?

It was as old as Zeus and Hera: Men are tough, women are harpists.

## Men, women and sharp points.

Men land a punch and win a round. Women harp, carp and emaciate. One of the occupational hazards of being a female journalist is that male pols seem to take criticism more personally when it comes from a woman.

Marlin Fitzwater, the Bush press secretary, recalls the public temper tantrum, and private invective, of President Bush's chief of staff, John Sununu, toward the late Ann Devroy, the flirty and enterprising White House reporter at The Washington Post.

"Men tend to judge criticism from men on the content, but they assign different motives to women — probably related to centuries of tradition about motherhood and male-female prejudices," Mr. Fitzwater speculated. "Men are still learning what equality means. Deep down in the darkest part of our hearts, male superiority still exists."

"With men, sharp give-and-take tends to be seen as a natural part of the prize fight, the art of war — all in the name of professional duty."

If a man writes a scathing piece about some gaffe a politician has made, no one accuses him of hostility toward men. If a woman writes the same scathing piece, the politician or his male aides will often suggest that her criticism is a reflection of some psychological problem. She is bitter about men. She needs to get ... a better love life. She is hormonally grumpy.

"Men are used to verbal dueling with other men," says Alan Dundes, a folklorist at the University of California at Berkeley. "But they are worried about being put down by a woman. Women are supposed to take it, not dish it out. If a woman embarrasses a man, he feels inadequate, effeminate. He wants her to go back to the kitchen."

The angry, male-hating female monster is a staple of mythology (Medusa and the Furies) and movies (Glenn Close with raised knife and Sharon Stone with raised ice pick).

The subtext here is that men like to put fear in the hearts of others. It is a sign of their power. Women don't. They are already afraid that, as they get more powerful, they get more scary, and this will repel men. Women are attracted to male power. Men are threatened by female power.

In sport and war, the big fear of men is to be feminized. In the workplace, the big fear of women is to be dehumanized.

So when a man kides a woman for being castrating, it is never more than half a joke.

It's discouraging. Can men and women ever meet in a place that's not about sex? It's enough to make a girl reach for a sharp object.

Only kidding.



## Europe, Unified Against Itself

By Timothy Garton Ash

IN BRUSSELS, the leaders of the European Union make the historic decision to proceed with a monetary union of, initially, 11 nations. In Washington, the Senate votes for the enlargement of NATO to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Some Europeans will today be celebrating the former as the long-awaited birthday of a new European superpower, to rival the United States, while lamenting the latter as a premature American-led adventure.

As a European who cares deeply about the future of our continent, I believe the reverse is true. The United States is helping us to do what Europe should be doing for itself, while it is "E.U.-rope" that is taking the advised gambler. The stakes are high: a "European Monetary Union" points us toward the desirable and questionable goal of "unity" in a part of Europe, while NATO enlargement steers us toward the desirable and attainable goal of liberal order in the whole of Europe.

It is by now commonplace to observe that Europe lacks the labor mobility, price and wage flexibility and substantial fiscal transfers between states which together make monetary union work in the United States. Nor does Europe have the common language, way of life and single democratic polity that make

**Monetary union is a distraction, or worse; the real challenge lies to the east.**

such things possible. Euro-optimists argue that the new euro will itself bring about both more economic flexibility, which continental politicians have largely failed to achieve in their own countries, and more political unification. That is, the currency will create the conditions for its own survival! It's a lot to ask of a little coin.

The underlying gamble is that the failure of monetary union would compel European leaders to take the difficult steps that they have not been prepared to take before. If before 1989 it was the fear of Soviet Communism that helped to drive forward West European integration, now it is to be the fear of failure.

Yet this fear is a somewhat abstract threat, especially in a country like Germany where two-thirds of the population still doesn't want to give up the strong and well-tried Deutsche mark for the untried euro. Actually, the Germans might be glad to have the mark back. And European politics is still national.

The strains of carrying out monetary union will be expressed through national elections. If things go quite well for a year or two, the Euro-optimists will scoff at us doubters. But once it becomes apparent that some countries are doing better than others and unemployment rises from its already very high levels, populist politicians will blame the E.M.U.

As we have seen with the successes of the ultranationalist Jean-Marie Le Pen in France and, most recently, of the extreme right-wing German People's Union in the German state of Saxony-Anhalt, some politi-

Timothy Garton Ash, a fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford, is the author, most recently, of "The File: A Personal History."

cians are already scoring with such arguments.

If, as seems likely, the German Government that emerges from this autumn's elections is a "grand coalition" of Christian Democrats and Social Democrats, then the votes of the discontented will strengthen the



extremes of left and right (as happened with the last "grand coalition" in 1966-69) since the two main parties will both be in power. Italian politics is also vulnerable to a growth of both extremes.

Meanwhile, France and Germany are still divided about how the new currency should be managed: by fully independent central bankers, on the German Bundesbank model, or partly also by politicians, with an eye to growth, voters and fixing the euro-dollar rate to help boost European exports?

I'm not arguing that the European Monetary Union will necessarily fall apart under these strains, and Europe with it. But it will be a very rough ride for some years to come.

This is only half the story. The other half is that coping with the strains will continue to divert European leaders' attention from the truly historic task of spreading the liberal order that we already have inside the European Union to the less fortunate parts of the continent where there is still a real danger of war.

The plain fact is that our leaders set the wrong priority after the end of the cold war. For 40 years we had lived in a divided house. In the Western half we had renovated, rewired, knocked rooms together, redecorated, while the Eastern half fell apart. Then, in 1989, the wall came down.

What did our leaders do? They decided that what the house most urgently needed was a brand new, computer-controlled system of air-conditioning in the Western half. While we set about installing it, the poor tenants in the Eastern half were left to deal as best they could, with minimal help from us.

Some, like the Poles, Hungarians and Czechs, managed an incredible feat of do-it-yourself renovation. But others started burning the furniture and fighting instead. We fiddled in Maastricht while Sarajevo began to burn.

Today, nine years later, reports of the last preparations for monetary union compete with those of imminent war in Kosovo.

True, the European Union has finally opened enlargement negotiations with five post-Communist countries, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Estonia. But the word in Brussels is that the earliest they are likely to join is 2003.

There is a real danger that the voters and special interest groups of Western Europe will balk at the costs of enlargement. West German taxpayers, for example, have been asked to pay many billions of dollars for unification; now they are being asked to accept cuts in welfare spending and to have their savings converted into a currency that will — let's be realistic — be somewhat softer than the mark.

Being asked to pay for enlargement could be the last straw. Right-wing populists — not friends, traditionally, of the Poles or Czechs — are sure to put it that way to voters. So here, too, there is an awkward tension between monetary union and enlargement.

Having come this far, we must try to make the monetary union work. But before we crack open the champagne to celebrate the decision in Brussels this weekend, we should

remember that Europe has embarked on a course fraught with unnecessary risk.

For all its faults, the European Union is a precious model of liberal order. It is a system with permanent institutionalized ways to resolve conflicts, supported by a framework of common law and a common market — something unprecedented in European history. But it is precisely this great achievement that is imperiled by the forced march to unity through money. Here, as so often, the best is the enemy of the good.

Even if monetary union works in itself, it may still hinder us in the immense task of extending the liberal order to the whole of Europe: the task we should have made our top priority after the end of the cold war.

Fortunately, NATO has stepped in where the E.U. failed to tread, and the Senate's decision in Washington is a reason for cracking open that champagne bottle, after all. But the rest will be up to us Europeans.

## In America

BOB HERBERT

## Pursuing the Children

The Times's Jack Curry had a story in last Sunday's sports section about Curt Schilling, a star pitcher with the Philadelphia Phillies who was first introduced to smokeless tobacco when he was 15.

In March, Mr. Schilling, now 31, was told by a dentist to undergo a biopsy. The dentist was worried that a two-inch lesion across the athlete's lower gums might be cancerous.

Potentially deadly lesions in the mouths of young tobacco chewers are common. Of the 141 major leaguers examined in a voluntary screening program this spring, 83 (including Mr. Schilling) had at least one tobacco-related lesion. Biopsies were recommended for 15 of the athletes.

Mr. Schilling, one of the best pitchers in baseball, had a very close call. Jack Curry wrote: "On March 17, doctors told Schilling that he had dysplasia, a condition in which the cells become disorganized — the stage before malignancy."

Mr. Schilling, who is married and has two children, stopped chewing tobacco.

Questions about Mr. Schilling's brush with catastrophe evoked a chilling response from Alan Hilburg, a spokesman for the Smokeless Tobacco Council in Washington. Mr. Curry quoted him as follows: "It has not been scientifically established that smokeless tobacco causes adverse medical effects."

Got that? Those nasty lesions on the lips, tongues and gums of smokeless tobacco users may have been caused by toothpaste, or mouthwash, or that most perilous of all oral activities, flossing.

Or maybe they just erupted spontaneously.

When you go to work for the tobacco industry you leave your humanity far behind. Dead customers have to be replaced. So do those who quit the habit after losing various portions of their bodies to the surgeon's knife, or undergoing the tortures of radiation or chemotherapy or both. And then there are the hundreds of thousands who manage to quit each year before cancer catches up with them.

They all have to be replaced with new customers, eager and young. This is not a task for sensitive souls. It's a job for someone who can look at the family of a smokeless tobacco victim who has lost part of his face and say: "It has not been scientifically established that the sale of tobacco products to minors, well over a million kids a year become regular smokers, tobacco chewers, cigar chompers, etc. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than five million children currently under the age of 18 will die from tobacco-related diseases."

A year ago I mentioned in a column that the U.S. Tobacco Company, the maker of Skoal smokeless tobacco, was planning a 40-city rock tour featuring big-name alternative rock musicians, including Iggy Pop, Tonic and 60 Ft. Dolls.

It was called the "ROAR Tour."

## Tobacco's search for new customers.

You don't think they were going after children, do you?

The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, which alerted the media to the tour, likes to quote the former sales representative who commented on the cherry flavoring that was added to Skoal Long Cut a few years ago. "Cherry Skoal," he said, "is for somebody who likes the taste of candy, if you know what I mean."

More than a million boys use smokeless tobacco. Two years ago Consumer Reports noted: "Half of the teen-age smokeless tobacco users already have pre-cancerous white patches in their mouths. With continued tobacco use, one in 20 of these lesions will become cancerous in five years."

You won't hear much about that from the likes of Alan Hilburg.

Now the tobacco industry is worried that legislation being considered in Washington will lead to financial disruption and might even drive some firms out of business.

Maybe so. A genuine crackdown on the sale of tobacco to minors is bound to hurt because the industry depends so heavily on such sales. Just how heavily was made clear in recently released internal documents from the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

One memo, from 1975, said, "To ensure increased and longer-term growth for Camel filter, the brand must increase its share penetration among the 14-24 age group, which have a new set of liberal values and which represent tomorrow's cigarette business."

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## THE ARTS

## Dazzled or Dazed? The Impact of Special Effects

By WILLIAM Mc DONALD

It seems like a movie now, that day in March when mankind was forced to drop its puny temporal concerns for a moment and contemplate the unthinkable: a reliable report that the end might be nigh. And like a movie, this brush with destiny had a happy ending. Within 24 hours of hearing the dark news that an approaching asteroid as wide as the Mississippi had an outside chance of hitting Earth in 2028, the world got word that the initial projections on the big rock's path had been off by, oh, 500,000 miles. In short, never mind.

But the scare was real while it lasted, and if it wasn't quite the day the Earth stood still, it was a moment imaginations ran wild. Suddenly people were discussing, in earnest, extinction. They were fearing for the children and asking searching existential questions. The refrain of the day came with a slow shake of the head: "Can you imagine?"

The answer, of course, was of course. Given a scenario, even a doomsday one, ordinary humans can be relied on somehow to be able to picture themselves in it. What images they come up with would naturally be as varied as the minds that conjure them, but they'd be vivid, and in the case of Armageddon, nightmarish; we're good at thinking the worst.

Not that any of this does Hollywood any good. Hollywood exists to imagine for us. And given the proper tool, it will do all it can to be as graphic as mechanically possible, leaving no gaps that may tax the audience to fill. Today, the tool handed Hollywood is easily the most extraordinary one introduced there since the camera: C.G.I. That's studio talk for computer-generated imaging, known to the rest of us as the latest in special effects. And well we know them. Too well, perhaps.

The wizards who produce the magic have been awing or amusing us for years, each time out with ever more amazing tricks. There were stampeding dinosaurs in "Jurassic Park." There was a bottomless city in "The Fifth Element." There were armies of insects in "Starship Troopers." And who can be allowed to forget a certain sinking ship? The computer is king, and if there is one mantra in the houses that create the effects, it is this: If you can think it, we can make it.

The products of such ingenuity unfailingly fill the screens in summer, when Earth and the Sun and supply and demand move into a kind of congenial alignment. Movies heavy in special effects are made mostly for the kids, after all, and come June, kids in the millions are in restless need of diversion. Then there is the general torpor of the season. As the theory goes, people just want to get out of the heat, sink back in one of those pleasantly springy multiplex seats, plunk a jumbo Pepsi in the cup holder, log off the brain and watch some action, any action.

Now we're on the brink of another supposed season of sloth, and the movie moguls couldn't have asked for a more timely one. If planetary existence is a crapshoot, the appearance of the asteroid, from Hollywood's standpoint, came up a seven. In not one but two strokes of blind luck, the studios are rolling out a pair of cinematic imaginings of galactic collision, movies in the works long before the March headlines broke. One is "Deep Impact," opening Friday; the other, "Armageddon," waiting in the wings for July. Together they arrive as if to assure us that if we somehow failed to absorb the potential gravity, as it were, of the asteroid scare, Sister Hollywood will explain it all to us — and show us exactly, through special effects, what might have happened.

Indeed, the films' depictions of an "extinction level event," as "Deep Impact" terms it, promise to be so convincing that they could well enter the collective imagination as definitive visions of how the world might end. And for those in the audience who have recurring nightmares about tidal waves, a truly awe-inspiring wall of water that curls over the peaks of Manhattan (movie-dom's favorite concentration of sitting ducks) and swamps the Eastern Seaboard in "Deep Impact" may provide an indelible nocturnal leitmotif.

If that's not enough digital spectacle to occupy the masses this summer, there will be more. A 20-story-tall reptile will make Manhattan its stomping ground in a remake of "Godzilla." Toy soldiers will wage war on a front lawn in "Small Soldiers." A comic-book hero will draw blood from vampires in "Blade." Then comes fall, and still more. Special effects have even spread to television, from prime time to commercials: see Merlin the magician converse with a mountain; see Wall Street become a rolling surfeit of asphalt.

Will it ever end? Of course not. But that's no reason not to ask. Have we had enough yet? Which is to say, Are we not becoming bored with all this computer-generated excitement?

As to the first question, the box office numbers would seem to argue

no. As to the second, there you get opinions.

To hear Alan Caruba tell it, he speaks for the thinking filmmaker when he says the riot of special effects in so many movies today — especially of the flesh-ripping, metal-crunching kind — have become a bore. As the founder and sole member of the Boring Institute, a spoof of an enterprise with a serious intent based in suitably uneventful Maplewood, N.J., Mr. Caruba, a publicity agent by trade, monitors pop culture for the tedious, the trite and the shallow and skewers it in a newsletter that Hollywood reporters love to quote, especially around Academy Awards time. This year he singled out special effects for a yawn. "I've done call-in radio shows all over the world, and I can tell you I haven't heard a dissent," he says.

"Nobody disputes that the effects are extraordinary," Mr. Caruba allows, "but we seem to have a generation of filmmakers dependent on special effects as opposed to the basic staple of a good film, which is a good story. I can appreciate a good special effect if it's integral to the film. But this is an era of Hollywood that assumes the audience has the attention span of fungus."

It may not be a stretch to say that the movies that peddle the digital pyrotechnics engage in a kind of technological pornography. That is, not only do the effects leave little to the imagination; they also never really satisfy, even though people may keep going back for more. And they often wind up repeating themselves from movie to movie (think of all those spaceships suggestive of engine blocks with wings), creating a whole new field of visual clichés.

THIS isn't to say that all the effects are alike. Esthetically they run from cheesy and noisy to plain beautiful to behold. The best of them may even leave an imprint on the imagination: the biblically wrathful storms in "Twister," the magnificent mother ship in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." But a barrage of even the most technically brilliant sights can leave you feeling only pummeled.

"I think special effects do become numbing," says the cultural observer and author Neal Gabler, who is completing a book entitled "Life the Movie: How Entertainment Conquered Reality." "But the analogy I would use is drug addiction. There's always a new drug that comes along because the old high isn't enough anymore. You want to ratchet up the experience somehow, going from marijuana to cocaine to heroin to PCP, saying, This is more intense, this is better. Special effects work the same way. We're constantly

## Computer-generated magic may be numbing viewer's imaginations.

climbing the ladder of 'Can you top this, we've seen this, what can you do for me now?'

In Mr. Gabler's view, then, it's the audience's need that drives the technology rather than the other way around. "It's not so much a case of, 'We can do this, therefore we'll do it' as, 'This is what the audience wants, therefore we'll do it,'" he says.

And all the audience has to do is sit back and be a receptor. "The audience doesn't have to do anything," Mr. Gabler says. "In this sense films have colonized the imagination."

The complaint is a longstanding one, coming into currency about the time film was invented. Movies, early critics said, would erode our wondrous ability, in communion with a writer, to piece together entire imaginary worlds from nothing but words on a printed page. The introduction of sound chiseled away even further at our imaginative powers, or so the skeptics said. Then came color, and on it went.

The issue was alive in 1947 when the novelist and screenwriter Budd Schulberg wrote: "To most Hollywood executives, the safest stories still seem to be those which do the people's dreaming for them. ... Away from your troubles, away from your responsibilities and your punch-in-punch-out monotony, you sit there in the enveloping darkness and let DeMille or some other genius of mediocrity spin out for you a million-dollar dream."

Movies were just one pop-culture product that the art critic Clement Greenberg had in mind 60 years ago when he drew a seminal distinction between art and kitsch, borrowing a German epithet for tacky excess. To Greenberg, movies, as examples of kitsch, gratified demands for pleasure without making demands of their own, and by doing all the work on behalf of the public, they betrayed art's duty to make people think.

That may be an overly harsh judg-



In "Godzilla," from the same team that made "Independence Day," the lizard is 20 stories tall and goes on a rampage through New York.

ment on the entire film industry. But it certainly may apply to "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," which added morphing to the national lexicon in 1991, or even the hyped-to-the-heavens "Independence Day." Here were movies in which special effects overwhelmed what story there was. A liquid alien in one film or an exploding White House in the other may have been fun to watch, but they supported narratives with about as much staying power as comic books, or video games. Should anyone care? Mr. Gabler does, as do others who believe that telling a story visually doesn't mean you have to show everything.

"The danger I see is to narrative storytelling itself," he says. "If you don't have to worry about character, about plot development — everything that has traditionally helped to elicit a response from us — then we lose one of the great joys and values of artistic achievement, the narrative pleasure."

SPECIAL effects also tend to loosen the joints of our willing suspension of disbelief, another staple of stage and screen, leaving the audience oddly alienated from the very drama, or comedy, to which it is asked to respond emotionally. As Mr. Caruba says: "One part of our brain is simply admiring how they achieved this or that effect. You're always aware that this is coming out of a computer."

The big-budget movie makers who showcase the effects say they agree that technology should never supplant story; they insist, though, that the "visual enhancements" are indispensable to the stories they're trying to tell. "We couldn't make this movie without these effects," says Jerry Bruckheimer, the producer of "Armageddon." "But it's ultimately about characters. The special effects will just lure you in. Look at 'Independence Day': if it didn't have the Will Smith character, I don't think it would have been as successful."

To Mimi Leder, the director of "Deep Impact," the digital effects serve her story, not the other way around. "This is about people facing the end of the world, facing awesome choices, and it forces you to ask, what would you do?"

Could she have done the movie without special effects? "Not a movie about a tidal wave," she says. "You need the effects to support this kind of story."

Even a producer and screenwriter with impressive art-house credentials like James Schamus tends to support Ms. Leder's position. "Creating filmic worlds in which there are monsters and explosions and extraordinary weather is no more a deterrent to good storytelling than having to hire an actor for \$20 million," he says.

He points out that although audiences may not have noticed, special effects were used in two recent literary films on which he worked: "Sense and Sensibility" and "The Ice Storm." "We filmed the actual ice storm in August," he says. And in a stranded-buggy scene in "Sense and Sensibility," a veil of mist upon an English pond was created digitally in a New York studio.

"I think we're talking about two kinds of films here," Mr. Schamus says. "There are special effects that are used to enhance the image or the story line, to fix things or underscore some emotional aspect of the film, and there is the other side, when special effects are in fact the stars of the movie."

"In 'Titanic,'" he says, "you were seeing a movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet and Digital Domain," one of the big special effects houses that the studios hire.

The digital factories have heard the complaints before, of course. Jim Morris, president of Lucas Digital, the corporate parent of another powerhouse special-effects studio, Industrial Light and Magic, both of which were brainchildren of the modern guru of the field, George Lucas, concedes that Hollywood may be thinking digitally too much. "Any time there's been a new technology introduced to cinema," he says, "there's been perhaps an overuse of it before it settles into a tool that serves story and character well."

And that's to be expected of any medium "in its infancy," Mr. Morris says. He likens many of Hollywood's special-effects extravaganzas to a roller-coaster ride — an example of what he calls "effects for effects' sake." Movies like these will doubtless be around as long as there are 14-year-old boys to watch them, but Mr. Morris believes that a more mature use of the technology is as inevitable as a child's growing up.

His analogy reminds me of a day years ago when, swept along by the rush of teen-age hormones, a friend and I rode a roller coaster at a beachside amusement park at least a half-dozen consecutive times. The experience was harrowing at first, to be sure, but once we got used to it,

the ride became simply hysterical fun, and we became commensurately fearless; we even stopped holding on. By the last time, though, even the laughter had ebbed and, having had enough, we went on to more serious pursuits, in the direction of girls on the boardwalk.

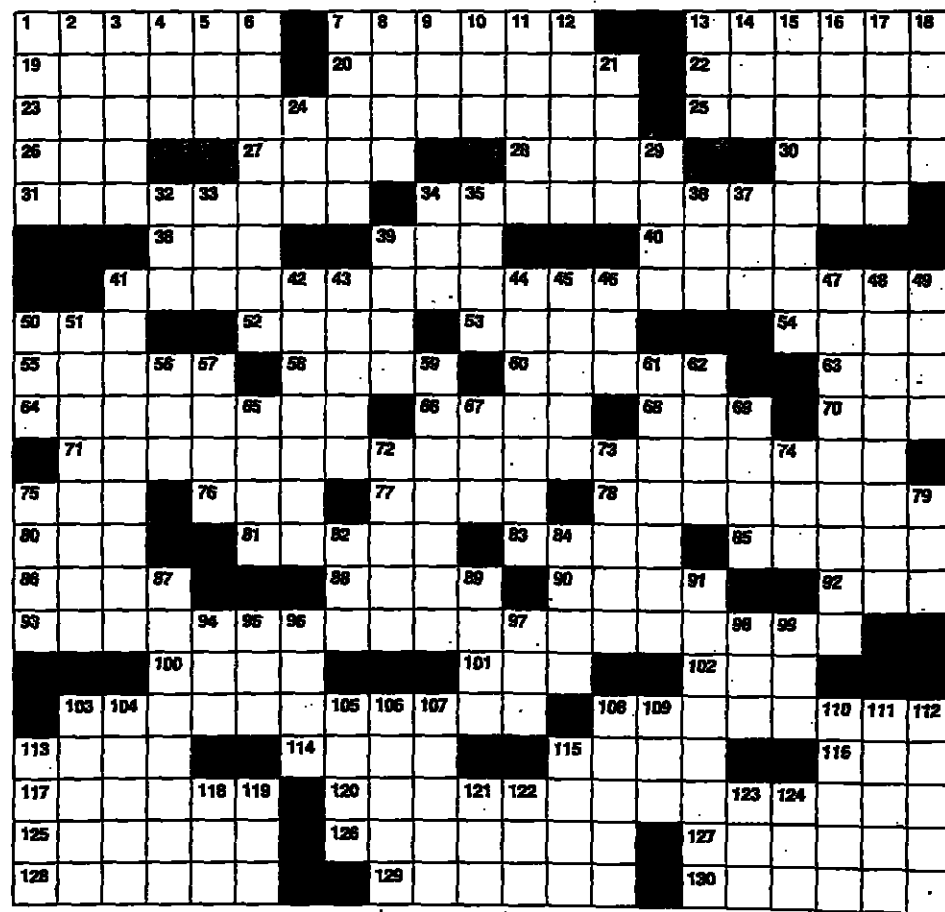
I could try to describe those rides in thrilling detail, employing every pyrotechnic word I could think of, but in the end I would be offering just an account of bodies and contraptions in dizzying motion. On the other hand, had I found, let's say, impetuous love in the seat behind me on that roller coaster and embarked from there on an adventure of the heart — now, that might have been a story. □

## THE USUAL SUSPECTS

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

## ACROSS

- 1 Discussed thoroughly, with "out"
- 7 Florentine family name
- 13 Flattened at the poles
- 19 Diffuse
- 20 Medium-sweet sherry
- 22 Introduction
- 23 Song from "Holiday Inn"
- 25 Meteorological menace
- 26 Holiday in Hue
- 27 Skyrocket
- 28 Bamako is its capital
- 30 Univ. awards
- 31 Modest bathing suit
- 34 Lustrous hue
- 38 Notre Dame name
- 39 Feature of some moderns
- 40 99-Down, Down Under
- 41 Off-scripted Barones Orcey novel
- 50 Smash letters
- 52 Limerick language
- 53 One of the Reiners
- 54 Gospel music award
- 55 Moonshine
- 58 Cautious stock inv.
- 60 Spring bloomer
- 63 Op.
- 64 Botanist's workplace
- 66 74-Down's opposite
- 68 Constitution worker?
- 70 6-pointers
- 71 Theme of this puzzle
- 75 Small shot
- 76 Landed a haymaker
- 77 Sked guesses
- 78 Quits working
- 80 Name of 13 popes
- 81 "Iceland" star
- 83 Cager Kukoc
- 85 React to a bad joke, perhaps
- 86 Gore's grp.
- 88 Infielder Joey
- 90 Warehouse supply
- 92 Shoe box marking
- 93 Peaked
- 100 "Hot Diggity" singer
- 101 Aurora's counterpart
- 102 Crack team? Abbr.
- 103 Boiled holiday treat
- 108 Loaf locale
- 113 Get wind of
- 114 Mountain lake
- 115 Slapsack ammo
- 116 Suffice with duct
- 117 Thesus' land
- 120 Counterintuitive concection
- 125 First Olympic Hall of Fame gymnast



- 126 Under political attack, maybe
- 127 Plan
- 128 Stalk
- 129 Cartoon cat
- 130 Oater groups
- DOWN
- 1 Popular book genre
- 2 Whey-faced
- 3 Whack
- 4 In great demand
- 5 Journal addendum?
- 6 Cut
- 7 Code name
- 8 Medicine Nobelist Metchnikoff
- 9 Afro and bob
- 10 "Just Another Girl on the —" (1993 drama)
- 11 Cause for pause
- 12 Soul singer Hayes
- 13 Stadium cheer
- 14 — Paese cheese
- 15 Fred Mertz, notably
- 16 Exciter's exclamation
- 17 Hint
- 18 Nephew of Cain
- 21 Where Dick Button
- 24 Epitaph starter
- 29 S.D.I. concern
- 32 "Phoebe!"
- 33 Fury
- 34 Bud, to Lou
- 35 Business biggie
- 36 Ford Sterling played one
- 37 Exiter's exclamation
- 38 Chilean president, 1964-70
- 41 Delicious
- 42 Holy war
- 43 Starwort, e.g.
- 44 Most difficult to believe
- 45 Butinsky
- 46 Feeling lousy
- 47 Chopin works
- 48 Exhibits, basically
- 49 Answer to "Shall we?"
- 50 "Put a lid on it!"
- 51 Kind of float
- 56 Revolutionary name
- 57 Pawn
- 58 Speaker's spot
- 61 Putting up with
- 62 Dictionary abbr.
- 65 "Here comes trouble!"
- 67 Inc. relative
- 68 Have — (overreact)
- 72 Open-mouthed quintet
- 73 "A vorre —"
- 74 Chabrier's "Le Roi malgre —"
- 75 Palace or prison, e.g.: Abbr.
- 79 "I told you so!"
- 82 D.S.M. recipient
- 84 "Singing journalist" Phil
- 87 Guards, collectively
- 89 Yemeni port
- 91 Slalom maneuver
- 94 Henri or Pierre, e.g.
- 95 Roadie's load
- 96 Shutout
- 97 Dress (up)
- 98 Shepherd's locale
- 99 Stripling
- 103 Nursery rhyme boy
- 104 Starbucks serving
- 105 Stops up
- 106 Solicits, with "up"
- 107 Map of the Aleutians, usually
- 108 Fuesbudget
- 109 House mem.
- 110 What anglers want that campers don't
- 111 "Mr. Belvedere" actress Graff
- 112 School clique, maybe
- 113 Kind of seal
- 115 Ready for surgery
- 118 Whisper sweet nothings
- 119 Cape —
- 121 Chi predecessor
- 122 Humerus locale
- 123 Year abroad
- 124 Most letters in D.C.

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FRAG TRESS LOLA HIST  
 KEET RURAL IDIOT INTO  
 OTTO UNITE FOURBAGGER  
 SCOUNDKEEPER TINKHORN  
 SCHTAG SPILA STARDER  
 STELLA TILA STARDER  
 PRO TRIPLEPLAY ADDUP  
 RUDY APER AINS NOISE  
 ASTA CRAG ENROLL NOISE  
 TUBELA LAGED ROOSTERS  
 LONG LONES BOAS  
 SHAPERS TINED SLIPON  
 IDIA DIERPE WIDE DUKE  
 BAIRD NATO RUMBERG  
 SHAKO MAKEUPGOLF BAR  
 PHONE ELF ORAL  
 SCREWING APL TETSE  
 RELAMED RELIEF TETSE  
 OPENINGDAY APORE HELL  
 BIRK SENSE NIGER FAME  
 SAKS TAPS SNIPS REED

السلامة





Jesus R. Galvis (left) with a friend: Galvis ran for a seat in the Colombian senate while serving on the city council of Hackensack, New Jersey. (Los Angeles Times)

## A new status symbol: Dual citizenship

With people increasingly pledging allegiance to more than one flag, is the notion of nationhood being undermined? Mark Fritz asks

Jesus R. Galvis came to America, built a business in New Jersey and got elected to the city council of Hackensack. Last month, he decided to expand this American success story by running for the Senate. The one in Colombia.

Galvis was attempting a feat perhaps unprecedented in American politics: holding two elected offices simultaneously in two countries. He is, after all, a citizen of both places, with a pair of passports to prove it.

"I was going to travel back and forth," said Galvis, who runs a travel agency in Hackensack. "I saw this as a good opportunity to keep some ties to the homeland there."

He lost, however. But the fact that a public servant from an American city campaigned for a post in a foreign government is but one example of a growing global phenomenon: dual citizenship. For better or worse, some analysts say pledging allegiance to more than one flag is becoming the hot status symbol of the coming century.

"You can now live in two societies at the same time," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington. "This is an issue of significant concern worldwide."

Years ago, voting in a foreign election was a good way to lose your US citizenship. No longer. While the federal government doesn't endorse dual citizenship, it increasingly tolerates it, at a time when more countries are allowing it and more people are seeking it.

A second, or even a third passport has become not just a link to a homeland but also a glorified travel visa, a license to do business, a stake in a second economy, an escape hatch, even a status symbol.

In the last seven years, Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and most recently, Mexico — the suppliers of some of the fastest-growing immigrant groups in America — have allowed their nationals to become citizens elsewhere without losing their original nationality. New leaderships in South Korea and India have expressed support for the same idea.

Upscale Australians in the US have been pressuring their government to allow dual citizenship so they can become Americans without losing their native status. The main motivation? Avoiding the stiff estate taxes that the US government imposes on foreigners who work here.

"The whole issue is just an aggravation. [Australians in the US] feel discriminated against," said Helen Cameron, who traded her Australian citizenship for American nationality so she could do business, serve on the school board and even seek the mayor's seat in Irvine, Calif.

Multiple nationalities have become so commonplace that some analysts fear the trend is undermining the notion of nationhood, particularly in the place with the most diverse citizenry on Earth: the United States.

Debate over the issue intensified recently, when Mexico joined the growing list of poor nations that say it's OK for their nationals to be citizens of the countries to which they have migrated.

Under the law that took effect March 21, Mexicans abroad — most of them in the US — will be able to retain Mexican citizenship even if they seek US citizenship. And naturalized Americans of

Mexican descent will be able to reclaim their original citizenship.

The Mexican government stopped short, for now, of giving expatriates the right to vote.

"It's hard to overestimate how important the Mexico situation is," Krikorian said. "There are now 7 million Mexican-born people in the US. That's almost a third of all immigrants." Krikorian is among those who say dual citizenship hinders assimilation and undermines the sense of shared experience that makes a nation a community. These critics say dual citizenship reduces the US to a place to make a buck, a mere land in which to live, while blood loyalties lie elsewhere.

"I think people think, 'So what. We're all democrats today. What's the big deal?'" said Noah Pickus.

**Years ago, voting in a foreign election was a good way to lose your US citizenship. No longer. While the federal government doesn't endorse dual citizenship, it increasingly tolerates it**

an immigration expert at Duke University's Sanford Institute of Public Policy. "But if you make citizenship strictly a passport, it doesn't have much substance to hold people together."

Others disagree. They say the trend toward multiple nationality is just a sign that the world is shrinking, that accessible transportation and easy communication as well as regional trade agreements and the globalization of the marketplace have created a new world of porous borders, a place where issues and agendas are more regional than national.

"It reflects the growing interrelationship of the world," said T. Alexander Aleinikoff, former general counsel for the US Immigration and Naturalization Service and a leading authority on immigration law and citizenship.

"Some people think of dual nationality as bigamy. Another way to look at it is having your family, and then when you get married, you have someone else's family as well. You may have to negotiate where you spend Christmas."

Many Latinos in America are troubled that people get alarmed about dual citizenship trends in Latin America, while other regions are rapidly moving closer.

"Europe is coming together. Asia is coming together," said Adriano Espallat, a naturalized American from the Dominican Republic and a member of the New York State Assembly who is the first Dominican elected to a US statehouse.

"I think that Irish Americans are still Americans first," he said.

"Latino Americans are Americans first." Yet even people who actively promote the idea of dual citizenship say there are limits to subdividing loyalties. New York City Councilman Guillermo Linares, the first Dominican American elected to any office in this country, made it a point not to vote in the 1996 Dominican election, the first in which Dominicans abroad could vote.

"I am an elected official of the United States," Linares said.

Although Jesus Galvis' candidacy for the Colombian Senate was virtually unknown to the US public, it was the topic of much debate in the local Colombian community. Saramaria Archila, head of a Latin American social services agency in New York who had lobbied for the dual citizenship law in Colombia, nevertheless said Galvis crossed the line.

"If I am an elected official in a country, it is impossible to defend the interests of my community in another country," she said.

Galvis, asked whether he could represent his Hackensack constituents while splitting time in Colombia, said he would have been like a US congressman with an office in his district and one in Washington. In each place, he said, "I would be representing the Colombians in the United States."

The US State Department reserves the right to revoke the citizenship of Americans who vote in foreign elections, seek a foreign citizenship or run for foreign office, yet almost never does. During the last 30 years, the courts have sharply limited the State Department's ability to revoke citizenship, except in the case of the occasional Nazi war criminals who seem to surface on a regular basis.

In recent years, in fact, the rules have made it easier for people who dodged the Vietnam War by fleeing to Canada to come home and resume their citizenship. By 1994, the US rules had been liberalized to the point where even Winston Churchill, who had an American mother, could easily claim US citizenship if he were alive today.

Some other examples of tacit US support for dual citizenship: Last year, when Secretary of State Madeleine Albright announced an end to a decade-old ban on US travel to Lebanon, she referred to the hardship the ban was causing to thousands of Americans with dual Lebanese citizenship. Beirut's Marriott Hotel and Casino is run by a man with US and Lebanese citizenship.

Also last year, the US State Department and Slovakia rescinded an old treaty, thereby enabling "the citizens of both countries to hold dual citizenship," the Slovak Embassy in Washington said.

The trend toward tolerance of dual nationality has coincided with enormous changes in the world during the last 10 years, one of the great periods of migration in history. This vast movement of people was triggered in large part by the fall of the Soviet empire and the opening and realignment of countless borders. One out of every 100 people on Earth lives outside the land of their birth.

Added to that is the globalization of the marketplace and the rise of the big trade alliances, such

as the North American Trade Agreement and the European Union. Factor in that it's easier to maintain ties to more than one country, thanks to the availability of cheap transportation and communication, and it's no wonder that more people consider themselves multinational.

"I don't think this is a trend that's going to abate. I think it's going to increase," said Peter Schuck, a Yale Law School professor who has written extensively on the topic.

Schuck said he believes dual citizens are more an asset to the US than a threat. "One advantage is that if they continue to vote in their original countries they will infuse their home countries with American values." He cited the 1996 Dominican Republic presidential election, one of that nation's most honest and orderly.

Others say dual citizenship threatens to transform the US into some amorphous piece of real estate that lacks a national identity.

Ethnic Iraqis or Palestinians are typically eager to seek an extra citizenship so they can get more visas and travel to more places without having to disrobe at the border. Customs agents around the world assume even the most law-abiding Iraqi is an agent or terrorist.

"They are frisked from top to bottom. They are refused visas," said Toronto attorney Guidy Mamann, an expert at cobbling together dual citizenship combinations.

Some people build up portfolios of passports. Mamann said he's working on the case of an American with dual Israeli citizenship and permanent residency rights in Hong Kong who is seeking permanent Canadian residency as a prelude to citizenship. This would enable him to, for example, do business in Cuba.

"He will have three or four passports and will use the one that suits him the best," he said. "And this is only going to continue. People are going to want to acquire as many nationalities as possible."

Patrick Lennon, an immigration lawyer in Hamilton, Ontario, spends evenings at home with his wife listening to Italian language lessons on a CD-ROM. They aren't Italian, but they're working on it.

A few years ago, with the

Canadian economy in the doldrums and the EU preparing to turn itself into one big market, he thought it would be wise to get his son Italian citizenship when he graduated from college.

"I thought, 'God, this would be a real bonus to hand him another market for job search,'" Lennon said. "I looked at my own Irish ancestry to see if there was something there, and it was a dead end. And I looked into my wife's Italian ancestry, and there was something there."

His son found a job, but Lennon and his wife, whose mother emigrated from Italy as a child, were intrigued by the idea of moving to the EU themselves. He's been piecing together the paperwork for five years and figures he's a document or two away.

Lennon sees nothing wrong with such designer citizenship.

"We don't expect all these other cultures to meld into this homogeneous landscape called Canadian, whereas the Americans expect everyone to come together into this one big Disneyland," he said.

"That melting pot thing really doesn't work. The American ideal of assimilation, Lennon contended, is passe.

"People who were more or less conned to believe that the minute they saw the Statue of Liberty they became an automatic American are reaching back for their origins." Every country in the world seems to have a slightly different take on just what constitutes citizenship and nationality, and what it takes to tamper with it.

A few years ago, some West African nations extended dual citizenship to black Americans in a bid to build old bridges broken apart by slavery.

Dr. Christian Barnard, the South African heart transplant pioneer, was granted dual citizenship in Greece because it was the birthplace of Hippocrates, the father of medicine.

Dual citizenship has been an explosive issue in such conflict-ravaged countries as Rwanda, Cambodia and the former Yugoslav federation, where the balance of power sometimes rests with people forced to flee murderous regimes and who subsequently become citizens somewhere else.

Britain began embracing the idea of dual citizenship to protect its nationals abroad when it began granting independence to its various colonies. Russia did much the same when the Soviet Union broke apart.

Many people say that Latin American nations are affording the same sort of protection for their people in the US, where anti-immigrant sentiment is high and benefits have been sharply curtailed. Some analysts see the retention of property rights in Mexico as the significant part of the dual citizenship law because more Mexicans would be likely to become US citizens if they knew that they could keep home ownership in their native country.

Aleinikoff said some people have always sought US citizenship for economic reasons, and whether they have dual citizenship is irrelevant.

"It is important to take citizenship seriously and cultivate in citizens a sense of loyalty and commitment and sacrifice that comes with being a citizen of the United States," he said. "If the United States is successful about doing that, we have very little to fear about dual citizenship."

(Los Angeles Times)

## Me? A Spy?

Many people are alive today because Ruth Zucker did not love Teddy.

Ruth Zucker, now 84 and living in Haifa, could not have known the eerie fates that would fill her eventful life, when she was still a young woman, when she broke the heart of the dashing Swiss Army officer.

She was engaged, she told him, and leaving for Palestine. It was the early 1930s.

The incredible tale is being made into a 2 1/2-hour documentary in Germany, following the success of the German-language edition of her book *Me? A Spy?* (It is also available here in Hebrew).

The daughter of "the richest man in Bonn," Ruth was educated in Geneva and California, and became a hand-picked disciple of Mahatma Gandhi. "I was devoted to India, not Israel, but then I fell in love with a crazy Zionist."

The high-society girl came here to live in "terrible conditions," and in 1937, thanks to her gift for languages, found her calling — as a Hagana spy.

She was the last to realize what she had become.

"I came back to my husband, and he said, 'Where did they put you?' I told him I got a fantastic job: I only have to know languages and translate. My husband became pale. He said: 'They made a Mata Hari out of you! It's spying!' I said, 'Me?'

"Many children had been thrown off trains when their parents knew they were going to concentration camps, and they were going to be killed. Somebody saved them and put them into monasteries."

"They were later brought to Poland and placed in an orphanage. When the Germans advanced, the children were sent to Russia."

When the Germans made a pact with the Russians they were sent to Siberia. From there they went to many places by sea; no country wanted to take them. But the Shah of Persia said they could come to Teheran.

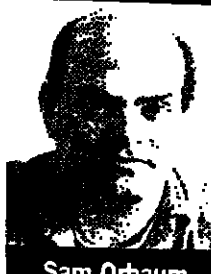
"But Persia was also at war, there was hunger, they had no medicines, no blankets, no clothes."

"Then the Jewish Agency received an SOS: 200 children had died already, the others were becoming sick, we can't keep them anymore, you have to get them to Palestine. But there were no visas."

"We found out there was only one very high civil employee in the British staff — nobody knew about it — who was allowed to give visas. His signature was kept in a safe, and nobody was allowed to see it. It was my job to get it."

"We checked on this man's private life. It appears he had a British girlfriend who was a secretary; his hobby was sailing, and he didn't have a boat. The Etzel and Lehi, who we

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

**Ruth Zucker saved many lives in a 12-year spy career jam-packed with intrigues and dangers. Four times she faced "inevitable death"; thrice, she was saved by Arabs**

A spy?!"

Her cover: "I became an anti-Jew, an intellectual snob. I had to lick the ass of the British. We were introduced in British high circles, and I was supposed to be an immigrant forced to come here from Germany. I was considered a traitor by the Jews — that was the worst of it. We were very lonely."

Her mission was to get a job at the British censorship office, which did not employ Jews. But Zucker won the confidence of the chief censor as "one of us."

"I had to sign something every week that if I leaked anything, I was subject to punishment — death by hanging. Lots of our friends were hanged in Acre."

In 1942, she passed on vital information that enabled the Jewish Agency to forge immigration certificates that rescued Jews from concentration camps. But eventually, more sophisticated means were required.

"Then the Hagana called me and said, 'There's this Mr. Verall, the chief censor for telegrams in Haifa. He has a map on his wall showing where the underwater cable from Haifa goes to Europe. It's top secret; no one is allowed into his office.'

"We need to know where in Europe the cable ends — and if you can, the convolutions it makes under the sea." They had frogmen who could go underwater and tap into the telegram wire, using Morse to send telegrams as if they were from the British.

"I said, 'How am I going to get in there?' They said they didn't know."

Verall had a daughter, Gloria, who worked there too. Ruth befriended her.

After six months, Ruth got her chance. Gloria was absent from work with the flu, and Ruth burst into Verall's office, hysterical, begging to know what had befallen her friend.

When Verall turned his back to fetch her a soothing cup of tea, she cast her eye on the map.

Gibraltar!

"That saved hundreds of lives," she says, with understated pride.

SHE WOULD save many more lives, in a 12-year spy career jam-packed with adventures, intrigues and dangers. Four times, she says, she faced "inevitable death"; thrice, she was saved by Arabs.

"The German documentary is about one incident in 1943. We received word from the Jewish Agency that there were 1,200 Jewish children in Persia, mostly between the ages of five and seven."

They became known as the Teheran Children.

were dead against, they had boats. They had founded a sailor's club [to ferry messages] called Zevulun. So we invented a jubilee — 25 years of the Zevulun club."

There was a casino in Haifa, the Bat Galim, which was used by the British for high occasions. We decided to rent it, never mind the money. He was invited as the guest of honor.

"We had planted a Jewish office in his girlfriend's office to become her friend, and she found out the English girl was madly in love with him, but he wouldn't marry her."

"So we had a fair at this party, and I became a gypsy, very old, with a wig — a soothsayer, not only a palm reader, but signatures too. Of course, there was an army of our boys and girls who came in and had their future read. I prepared little pieces of paper, with their signatures."

Ruth warms to the memory. "We were laughing. I told them all sorts of jokes, and they came out and said, 'She's fabulous, she's fantastic, she knew my past!' The whole hall was talking about it."

The Jewish girl lured her friend, who was mesmerized by this gypsy's knowledge of her life. Ruth then moved in for the kill. She said she could "erase the bad spell" on her boyfriend, and apply a good spell so that he would marry her — if only she could see his signature, which she needed to read his future.

Meanwhile, other Hagana boys were plying him with whisky. And he fell for it.

"Five minutes after he was seated, his signature was already with our forger, and we made a collective visa for 900 children. Some of them rose high in the military, others became big industrialists, many made good."

And where does Teddy fit in?

"When he heard I was engaged and going to Palestine, he became a monk. He entered a monastery, broken-hearted."

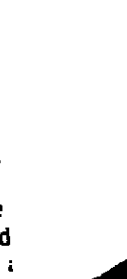
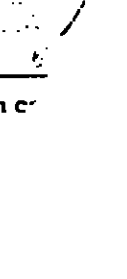
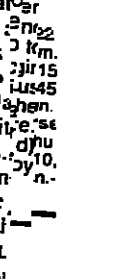
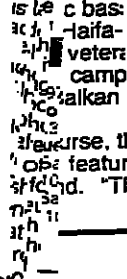
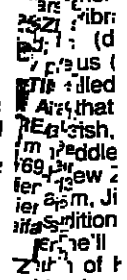
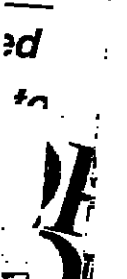
"Years later, when he heard there were Jewish children running around parentless in the woods of Europe, he took his Harley Davidson and, in his white robe and barefoot and in sandals — he was known as the Flying Monk — he put these children in monasteries."

Many of them ended up in Teheran.

"He saved them there. I saved them here. And we never knew what the other was doing."

"His father told me the story long, long after the war. He had asked Teddy why he did it, and he said: 'I loved Ruth, the only woman I ever loved, the only Jew I ever knew. And when I heard these were Jewish children — that's why I did it. In every child I picked up, I saw Ruth's face.'"

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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday,  
May 4, 1998

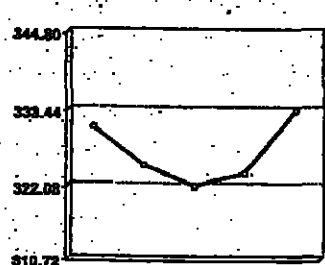
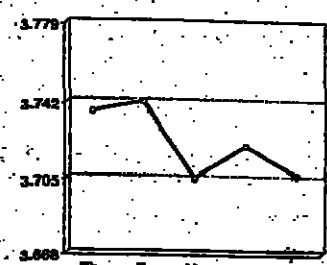
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## MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

MAOF INDEX

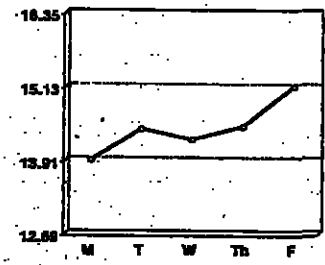
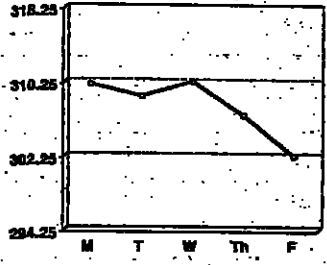


GOLD

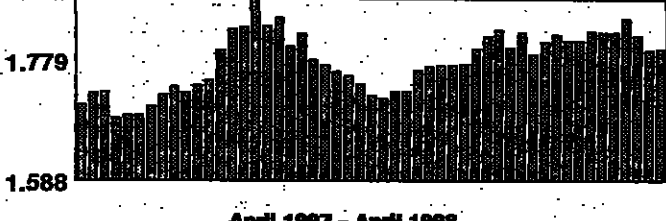
\$ per ounce

OIL

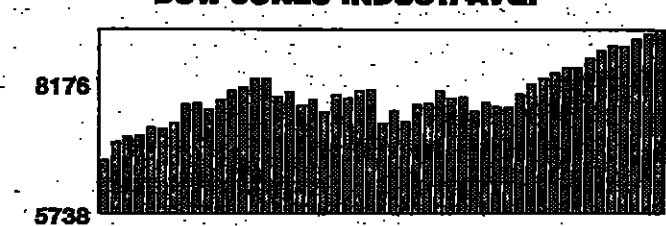
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



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### British trade links to be celebrated next week

A British trade and cultural fair is to be held next week in Tel Aviv to mark Israel's 50th anniversary and the extensive links between the two countries. British Minister for Trade Lord Clinton Davis will head the British delegation, which is to include senior businessmen and lawyers. Representatives of some 150 British companies seeking Israeli partners and local representation also will be arriving for the event. The fair is to take place at the Tel Aviv Museum plaza and at Habimah. Britain is Israel's second largest trading partner, after the US.

Nina Gilbert

### Clinton asks Congress to help end IRS abuse

US President Bill Clinton, in his weekly radio address, called on Congress to pass legislation this year to reform the Internal Revenue Service. "I call on Congress to make this the year we set aside our political differences to enact real IRS reform," Clinton said in his address, made during a weekend visit to California. The Senate Finance Committee held hearings all week in which a parade of witnesses, including former IRS agents, tax specialists, business executives and even Howard Baker, the former Republican US senator from Tennessee, testified about abuses and wrongdoing by the agency.

Bloomberg

## Treasury lowers '98 growth forecast

By DAVID HARRIS

Economic growth will reach a maximum two percent this year but possibly be as low as 1%, Economic Research and State Revenue Administration head Tsipi Galyam said yesterday.

Until now the official Treasury forecast was for the gross domestic product (GDP) to increase by 1.5%-2%.

Galyam revealed the figures to the cabinet during a debate on the increase in unemployment. Following the meeting she told

reporters that current economic indicators suggest there are presently no signs of a recovery.

"The current rate of growth is lower than that needed to reduce unemployment," she said.

In response, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman said the NIS 1 billion plan introduced yesterday will lead to increased economic growth, which in turn will bring about greater job creation.

Last July the Treasury's predictions for the economy suggested a stronger performance this year than is being witnessed. The data

predicted 1998 growth at 3%-3.5%, with GDP growth expected to total 2.9%-5.4% by 2000.

The same forecast pointed to 1998 unemployment reaching 7.9%, while ranging between 6.8% and 11.4% by 2000. But joblessness stood at 8.3% by the end of February, and many economists are talking of 9% by December.

Galyam also pointed out that while nominal interest rates are falling, real rates are on the rise. She did not comment on the benefits or otherwise of these trends. However, in a document pre-

sented to the cabinet yesterday, the Treasury wrote that the Bank of Israel must use its monetary power to help increase growth and employment opportunities, while ensuring stability on the currency market.

Meanwhile, Israel's foreign currency reserves reached \$21.818 billion at the end of April, an increase of \$214 million from March, the Bank of Israel announced. The central bank explained this was mainly due to increases in its own income. Central Bureau of Statistics data

published yesterday showed the dollar appreciated 3.06% against the shekel in April, the largest change since the dollar climbed 5.29% in June last year - a fluctuation that prompted the central bank to alter the exchange rate mechanism.

The basket of major currencies against which the shekel is traded appreciated 3.64% last month, also its highest jump since June 1997.

Within the basket, the largest gain was 5.87% by the German mark, with the Dutch guilder gaining 6.02% against the shekel.



Slow rebound in hard drive market

Workers in a high technology firm in Sri Lanka put together computer disk drives. The global hard drive market took a beating following the Southeast Asian crisis. Companies say sales are gradually picking up, but warn that buyers are becoming more quality conscious. (Reuters)

## Neeman visits US to finalize aid plan

By STEVE RODAN

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman arrives in Washington today to discuss converting half of the \$1.2 billion of annual US economic aid to Israel for military use, but the proposal has hit a snag over whether any of the additional funds could be directed toward local defense purchases.

Under Neeman's proposal, the US would end its economic aid to Israel over 10 years and convert half of these funds to military aid, which is now set at \$1.8 billion a year.

"At this point, the US does not agree that any additional aid should be converted into shekels and spent in Israel," a defense official said. "This is something that must be settled before any agreement is reached over ending the American economic aid."

Officials would not say what portion of the additional military aid they are seeking to convert to shekels, but some suggested that it should be higher than the 25 percent of the annual military aid Israel can now use for local defense purchases. The shekel conversion allows local defense.

industries to compete against US firms for Defense Ministry contracts funded with the US aid.

A Defense Ministry official said the shekel conversion issue is being led by Neeman with input from the Defense Ministry. The official said the Finance Ministry is pressing the issue with the Clinton administration because the Treasury intends to cut the defense budget in proportion to additional US military aid.

"Neeman is keeping things closely guarded," the official said. "But he realizes that any proposal that can't allow the ministry to spend additional funds in Israel won't work."

Defense officials pointed out that Israel is giving up \$600 million annually and as a result Neeman's proposal should be seen as a boon for the US taxpayer. They said such an Israeli agreement requires assurances that additional military aid fulfills the nation's requirements.

For his part, Neeman is confident that he will reach an understanding with the Clinton administration over the next week. Last week, he met twice with US Assistant Secretary of State

Martin Indyk as their aides tried to complete a draft agreement.

Indyk supports Neeman's proposal of converting economic aid to military aid but has expressed reservations about any more US funds being spent in Israel.

"The US defense contractors want the business and that's understandable from our point of view," he said last week. "And, of course, Congress and the administration want the business to go to American companies. That's one point that people should understand is very difficult for us."

But Israeli officials said they want additional funds to be allotted for research and development programs to increase Israel's defense against medium-range missile threats, particularly from Iran and Iraq. They point to projects undertaken at Rafael (Armaments Development Authority), which officials said has supplied more than 100 systems for IDF use, 70 percent of which cannot be purchased anywhere.

"There has been a radical change in the region that affects the strategic equation and it has a special tactical effect on the use of force," Israel Air Force Commander Maj.-Gen. Elton Ben-Eliaz said in a lecture at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies last week.

"There is a chance to overcome this threat through technological means but it involves economic difficulties. The solution is through alliance-type policy, and cooperation in Israel with commercial sources."

## US insists on evidence in Argentine IBM scandal

The United States insisted on proof a crime was committed before it would send four IBM employees to give evidence in Argentina in a bribery case, two Argentine newspapers reported over the weekend.

The Argentine judge investigating allegations the local unit of the computer giant paid bribes to win a \$250 million contract with state-owned Banco Nacion in 1993 insisted on Thursday that four executives from IBM's headquarters must give evidence in Buenos Aires.

But in a letter to Argentina's legal authorities, cited Saturday by the daily *La Nacion* and daily *Clarín*, the US Justice Department "demands sufficient proof showing a crime took place," before it would consider extraditing the four US executives to Argentina.

IBM said on Wednesday the four were willing to give evidence in sworn testimony in the US, but it said they were "not Argentine citizens nor employees of IBM Argentina." Two of them no longer work for IBM.

IBM, based in Armonk, New York, has denied any wrongdoing but admitted to errors "inconsistent with company policy" and fired executives at its Argentine unit.

IBM Argentina's fired vice-president, Gustavo Soriani, was questioned by Judge Adolfo Bagnasco on Thursday. He and the company's former head, Ricardo Martorana, have implicated the US executives in the case, but the four argue the buck stopped in Argentina. (Reuters)

## Israel placed on copyright piracy watch list

By NINA GILBERT

The Industry and Trade Ministry issued a protest yesterday against the decision by US trade representative Charlene Barshefsky to place Israel on the Priority Watch List of violators of US-owned intellectual property rights. The rights apply to entertainment and software around the world.

Zohar Peri, director of the Foreign Trade Administration, said that Israel, as a high-tech leader, is committed to enforcing intellectual intellectual property laws.

The ministry called on the US to remove Israel from the list, saying "it is strange that Israel has been moved to this list just as it is taking measures to crack down on piracy." At this point, the classification does not entail sanctions, it noted.

Ministry Director-General Dov Mishor is to meet this week with representatives of the Justice and Internal Security ministries to discuss ways to boost cooperation among ministries, as well as with the Palestinian Authority, in fighting piracy. Some of the piracy operations are under PA jurisdiction, the ministry noted.

In the US Commerce Department's annual review under the "Special 301" US trade law, Israel was cited for inadequate legal protection to protect patents and copyrights on software, videotapes, and music. It was placed on the Priority Watch List together with Macau, Argentina, Ecuador, Egypt, the EU, India, Indonesia, Bulgaria, Russia, Turkey, the Dominican Republic, and Kuwait.

Israel was cited mostly for violations in the music sector, after improving its enforcement of software copyrights. The ministry also noted that the amendments to the Copyright Law are to come up for a vote in the Knesset in the summer. Israel has been cited in the past for its antiquated laws against piracy.

In a visit here last month, Microsoft's No. 2 official, Steve Ballmer, said Israel's rate of pirated use of its software is 68%, higher than other Westernized countries. However, Microsoft officials said the level is expected to drop to around 60% with the publication of the next set of piracy figures by the Business Software Alliance.

Barshefsky expressed optimism that the review will prompt changes in countries that crack down on violators.

The report noted progress in Brazil and Taiwan, but resulted in a decision by the US to file a complaint against Greece with the World Trade Organization over the high rate of piracy of television programming.

## NY State opens local trade office

By NINA GILBERT

New York Gov. George Pataki opened a trade office in Jerusalem on a ceremony on Friday.

"Israel is a symbol of courage, determination, and indomitable human spirit for freedom-loving people in America and around the world," he said. "Israel's past accomplishments are incredible and her potential is unlimited."

Pataki is leading a delegation of 30 businessmen for a visit here to mark the jubilee celebrations.

The office will be directed by Gerry Stoch, a former Finance Ministry official who served as an economic attache in the US. The office is located at the entrance to the city, in the Postal Authority building.

Pataki noted that Israel is one of New York's top 10 trading partners, and exports from New York amounted to more than \$1.7 billion in 1997, more than to China, Brazil or Taiwan.

Israel's high-tech companies earned more than \$1.25b. in New York last year, on the stock exchanges, from banks and investors.

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Company's address, with postal code no. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_  
Bank \_\_\_\_\_ Bank branch no. \_\_\_\_\_  
Bank acc.no. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Major League Statistics (Through Friday's games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE											NATIONAL LEAGUE																			
TEAM PITCHING											TEAM PITCHING																			
ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	Sv										
3.94	250	107	105	180	1	1.54	3.52	278	123	81	157	7	1.68	3.52	278	123	81	157	7	1.68										
4.08	274	116	175	178	2	1.54	3.81	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	3.81	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.21	246	111	187	146	0	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.25	229	115	83	194	3	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.25	215	107	102	146	1	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.42	248	117	102	146	1	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.44	245	119	101	151	3	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.67	248	126	191	184	1	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
4.88	251	129	118	187	0	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
5.01	248	139	117	181	0	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
5.08	271	139	161	181	0	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
5.35	252	139	124	154	1	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
5.71	248	134	196	157	0	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
5.93	283	163	113	197	1	1.54	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79	4.02	245	117	17	17	8	1.79										
INDIVIDUAL PITCHING											INDIVIDUAL PITCHING																			
Based on 3 decisions											Based on 60 plate appearances																			
IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA	IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA	IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA										
46	35	18	44	4	4	1.54	72	37	17	31	0	7	4.31	72	37	17	31	0	7	4.31										
16	11	7	11	3	1	2.20	123	24	10	48	6	22	4.15	123	24	10	48	6	22	4.15										
37	28	10	33	5	0	2.43	69	16	25	31	0	37	3.79	69	16	25	31	0	37	3.79										
40	32	16	33	4	2	2.45	64	11	26	1	15	37	3.79	64	11	26	1	15	37	3.79										
38	28	10	33	4	2	2.45	88	9	33	0	7	3.75	88	9	33	0	7	3.75	88	9	33	0	7	3.75						
31	31	12	2	1	2.61	99	18	37	0	3	14	3.74	99	18	37	0	3	14	3.74	99	18	37	0	3	14	3.74				
43	34	12	5	1	2.72	98	18	35	0	12	3.72	98	18	35	0	12	3.72	98	18	35	0	12	3.72	98	18	35	0	12	3.72	
17	11	19	4	0	2.77	91	22	21	2	10	3.72	91	22	21	2	10	3.72	91	22	21	2	10	3.72	91	22	21	2	10	3.72	
15	15	6	1	2	2.77	84	18	28	2	1	3.59	84	18	28	2	1	3.59	84	18	28	2	1	3.59	84	18	28	2	1	3.59	
34	34	9	27	4	1	2.95	78	11	30	0	7	3.55	78	11	30	0	7	3.55	78	11	30	0	7	3.55	78	11	30	0	7	3.55
48	45	16	23	3	3.00	79	11	28	9	29	35	1	3.59	79	11	28	9	29	35	1	3.59	79	11	28	9	29	35	1	3.59	
41	35	17	23	4	1	3.05	84	18	28	2	1	3.51	84	18	28	2	1	3.51	84	18	28	2	1	3.51	84	18	28	2	1	3.51
45	33	12	3	3	3.07	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
40	42	8	35	3	3.10	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
40	42	8	35	3	3.10	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
28	24	3	3	2	3.21	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
36	37	15	33	2	3.44	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
38	34	14	27	2	3.49	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
40	42	5	34	3	3.54	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
35	36	3	19	4	3.55	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
32	36	6	19	4	3.60	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
27	17	17	24	2	3.62	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
37	30	12	24	3	3.62	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
17	16	3	1	3	3.71	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
34	34	8	25	2	4.06	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
24	25	8	2	1	4.07	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
28	30	13	15	1	4.06	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
37	33	20	19	3	4.10	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
37	33	4	7	23	3	4.10	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
33	36	15	20	3	4.28	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
35	38	9	24	2	4.29	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
39	39	18	22	1	4.45	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
41	36	12	29	3	4.61	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
Thompson	3.4	35	14	27	3	4.67	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
Houde	3.4	34	19	20	3	4.67	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
Wilton	3.7	36	9	14	2	4.67	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
Johnson	3.9	38	10	24	3	4.81	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
Johnson	3.3	13	8	3	4.85	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	
Johnson	3.6	15	1	7	1	4.86	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2	12	3.52
Springer	3.7	33	15	14	4	4.91	89	12	31	2	12	3.52	89	12	31	2														



## SPORTS

in brief

## Enqvist, Hingis win in Munich

MUNICH (Reuters) - Swede Thomas Enqvist won a close battle against Andre Agassi to take the Munich Open clay event yesterday. A backhand winner on his first match point allowed Enqvist to seal the match 6-7 (4-7) 7-6 (8-6) 6-3 after two hours and 15 minutes and deprive Agassi of what would have been the 500th career victory.

In the WTA event in Munich, Martina Hingis won the 17th tour title of her career and her third this year when she beat her former compatriot Jana Novotna 6-3 7-5 in the final.

Remarkably, it was the Czech-born world number one's first title on European red clay, the surface she calls her favorite.

In Prague, unseeded Brazilian Fernando Meligeni romped to a 6-1 6-4 victory over Czech Slava Dosedel to win the Czech Open tennis tournament. Meligeni, world-ranked 75th, needed just 79 minutes to wrap up the victory.

## Euro champ Oliver critical after knockout

LONDON (Reuters) - British boxer Spencer Oliver was in critical but stable condition yesterday after undergoing brain surgery following his knockout in a European bantamweight title defence, local media said.

Oliver, 22, was floored by a right to the head from Ukrainian opponent Sergei Devakov in the 10th round of his fourth title defence on Saturday night. He was carried unconscious from the ring and taken to hospital. BBC Television quoted doctors at London's National Hospital as saying Oliver had three hours of surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain.

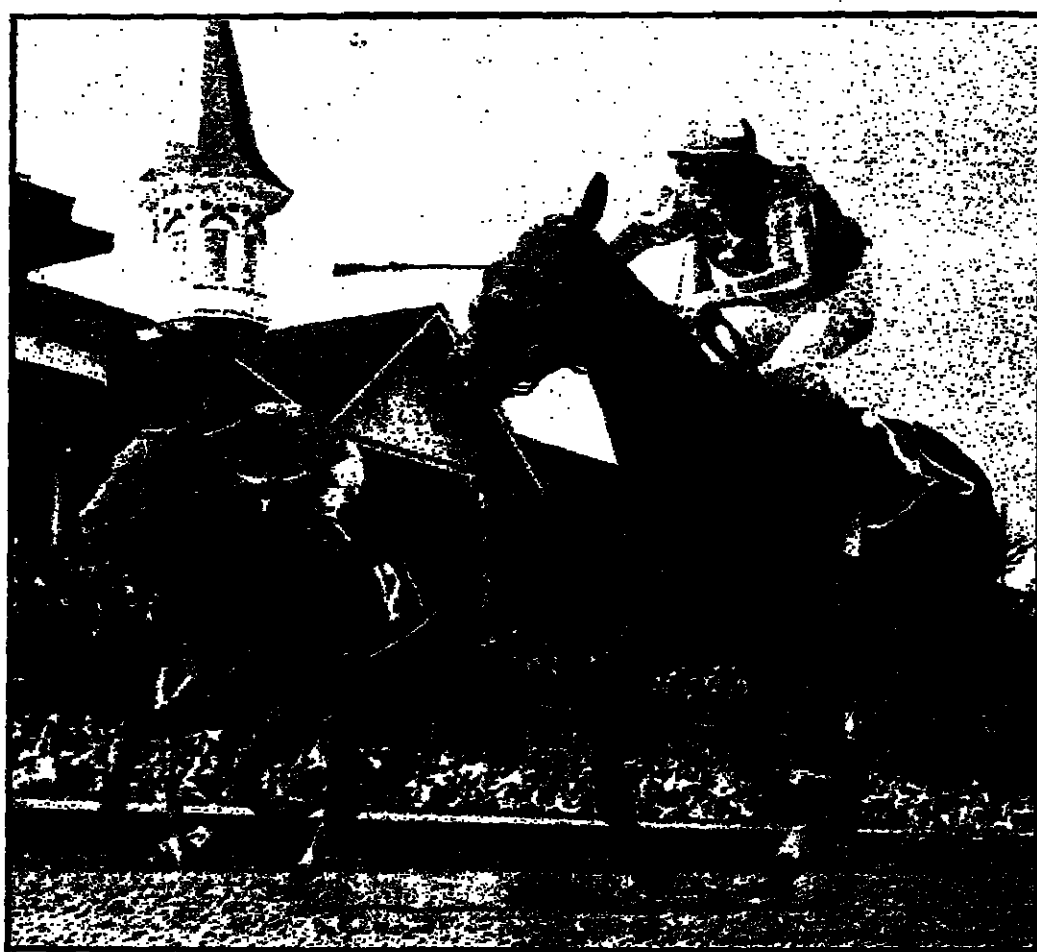
## Late Faulconbridge goal frustrates Celtic

GLASGOW (Reuters) - A late goal by Dunfermline's Craig Faulconbridge put Celtic's Scottish premier division title ambitions on hold yesterday.

The league leaders paid the penalty for failing to convert a number of chances when Faulconbridge equalized Simon Donnelly's 35th-minute goal six minutes from time.

The 1-1 draw left Celtic short of the extra two points they needed to deny Rangers a 10th successive league crown.

Celtic lead their Glasgow rivals by two points with one match each to play.



## Real Quiet wins Kentucky Derby

Jockey Kent Desormeaux rides Real Quiet holds off a late challenge from Victory Gallop (No. 2) to win the 124th Kentucky Derby on Saturday by a half length. Indian Charlie nosed out Hallory Hunter in a photo finish to claim third. Real Quiet's victory extended three long-time Derby jinxes. Indian Charlie was the 18th consecutive beaten favorite, dating to 1979 when Spectacular Bid won. Spectacular Bid was also the last 2-year-old champion to win the Derby. Real Quiet, who lost his first three starts this year, paid big premiums on a partly cloudy afternoon before 143,215 roaring fans.

## Senators eliminate Devils from NHL playoffs

KANATA, Ontario (AP) - The Ottawa Senators eliminated the first-place New Jersey Devils from the NHL playoffs with a 3-1 victory Saturday night, suddenly turning the Eastern Conference into a wide-open race.

The Senators, who were 24 points behind New Jersey in eighth place, never trailed in the series or in the final game, which they dominated with their speed and aggressive forechecking to finish off the first-round series in six games.

Alexei Yashin, Jarmo Laakkonen and Igor Kravchuk scored for Ottawa, while goaltender Damian Rhodes recorded perhaps his quietest win of the series with a 21-save performance.

**New Jersey Devils** 1, 0, 0-1. **Ottawa Senators** 1, 0, 0-1. **First Period:** 0-1, Yashin 3 (Alfredsson), 8:28 (pp). **Second Period:** 0-0, New Jersey 1 (Cullen), 1:24 (pp). **Third Period:** 0-1, Cullen 1 (McEachern), 10:30. **Fourth Period:** 0-0, Ottawa 1 (Kravchuk), 16:10 (pp). **Shots on goal:** New Jersey 5-9-25, Ottawa 11-8-12-31. **Power-play opportunities:** New Jersey 0 of 3; Ottawa 1 of 3.

Defenseman Kevin Dean scored for the Devils.

The Philadelphia Flyers, seeded No. 3 in the East this season, were eliminated by the sixth-place Buffalo Sabres on Friday night, while the second-seeded Pittsburgh Penguins trail the seventh-seeded Montreal Canadiens 3-2 heading into last night's game at the Molson Center.

The No. 4-seeded Washington Capitals lead the Boston Bruins 3-2 going into yesterday's game in Boston.

**Stars 3, Sharks 2, OT**

In San Jose, California, Mike Keane scored the winning goal as the Dallas Stars finally conquered the underdog Sharks with an over-

**Goalties:** New Jersey, Brodeur 2-4 (30 shots-28 saves); Ottawa, Rhodes 4-2 (22-21). **Dallas Stars** 1, 0, 0-1. **San Jose Sharks** 1, 0, 0-1. **First Period:** 0-0, San Jose 1 (Cullen), 18:28 (pp). **Second Period:** 0-0, San Jose 1 (Nichols), 10:29. **Third Period:** 0-0, Dallas 1 (MacLean), 7:51. **Fourth Period:** 0-0, Dallas 1 (MacLean), 16:54 (pp). **Shots on goal:** Dallas 10-10-25, San Jose 10-10-25. **Power-play opportunities:** Dallas 0 of 3; San Jose 1 of 3.

time victory to move on to the second round of the Western Conference playoffs.

San Jose, the eighth seed in their conference, had threatened to take the closely-fought series back to Dallas for Game 7 by jumping ahead 2-0 in the game. But Dallas battled back with two straight goals in the second period and the game-winner at 3:43 into overtime to wrap up the series in six games.

The Stars had lost their last five overtime games in the playoffs, including Game 4 of the series against the Sharks last Tuesday in San Jose, and had not won such a game since 1994.

**Oilers 2, Avalanche 0**

In Edmonton, Alberta, Curtis

**3-43.** Shots on goal: Dallas 7-9-11-1-1-08. San Jose 7-7-5-2-21. **Power-play opportunities:** Dallas 0 of 2; San Jose 1 of 3. **Goalties:** Dallas, Belfour 4-2 (21 shots-19 saves); San Jose, Vernon 2-4 (28-25). **Colorado** 0, 0, 0-0. **Edmonton** 1, 0, 0-1. **First Period:** 0-0, Edmonton 1 (Barkowski), 1:03.

Joseph's 31-save performance and two goals by defensemen lifted the Oilers over the Colorado Avalanche.

The Oilers forced Game 7 today, clawing their way back from a 3-1 series deficit to tie the Western Conference quarterfinal at 3-3.

Doug Weight set up Drake Berhowsky early in the game and then helped to seal the win with another slick pass to Boris Mironov midway through the third.

The last time the Oilers came back from a 3-1 series deficit was in 1990 against the Winnipeg Jets, when they went on to win their last Stanley Cup.

**Weight, McAmmond** 3-10. **Second Period:** 0-0, Oilers 1 (Berhowsky), 10:21 (pp). **Shots on goal:** Colorado 6-8-15-31. **Edmonton** 10-10-22. **Power-play opportunities:** Colorado 0 of 8; Edmonton 1 of 8. **Goalties:** Colorado, Roy 3-3 (22 shots-20 saves); Edmonton 11-25-33 (31-31). **Edmonton** 10-10-22.

## Juve one win away from 25th title

ROME (Reuters) - Juventus moved to within a single victory of their 25th Italian championship on Sunday with a 0-0 draw at Vicenza.

With second-placed Inter Milan missing the chance to close the four-point gap at the top of Serie A with a scoreless draw at home to Piacenza, Juve need only to defeat Bologna next Sunday to clinch the title.

After poor refereeing denied Inter a penalty in their 1-0 defeat at Juventus last week, the Milan side were again left to rue a controversial decision.

In the 88th minute Uruguayan Alvaro Recoba's free kick appeared to rebound off an outstretched arm in Piacenza's defensive wall inside the area. But the referee waved play on.

Inter's draw means the club will at least finish second, guaranteeing a place in next season's Champions' League.

German Oliver Bierhoff's 24th goal of the season brought Udinese a 2-1 victory at relegated Napoli that lifts his club into third place, ahead of UEFA Cup finalists Lazio who were beaten 1-0 at Lecce on Saturday.

AS Roma, 5-0 winners over AC Milan, and Parma, who drew 2-2 at home against 10-man Sampdoria, guaranteed themselves UEFA Cup places next season.

**Serie A results yesterday:** Atalanta 2, Bari 0; Fiorentina 5, Brescia 1; Bologna 2, Napoli 2; Vicenza 0, Juventus 0; AS Roma 5, AC Milan 0; Inter Milan 0, Vicenza 0; Parma 2, Sampdoria 2; Napoli 1, Udinese 3. **Played Saturday:** Lecce 1, Lazio 0.

## Maccabi crushes Hap. Jerusalem

Eilat-Ra'anana series tied at 1-1

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

What do Hapoel Jerusalem and the Batsheva Dance Company have in common?

They both didn't perform in the capital. While the dancers may have had conscience in their corner, Hapoel's play last night seemed unconscionable as they rolled over and died for a Maccabi squad that opened an early lead and then crushed its opponents 104-65, taking a commanding 2-0 lead in their best of five semi-final series.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Eilat evened its series 1-1 with Maccabi Ra'anana by virtue of a 79-70 home victory. The two clubs will meet again Wednesday night, while Jerusalem faces Maccabi Tel Aviv at Yad Eliahu Thursday night.

Judging by last night's game, Jerusalem fans have little to look forward to. Hapoel was tied with Maccabi 2-2, but never got closer than two points after that.

Even more distressing to Hapoel coach Eddy Birnbaum is that his team seemed to lack any heart once things got tough. Heart is what may have been part of the reason for Hapoel's demise, this particular one belonging to Kenny Williams. Williams, who had chest pains during the week, appeared to be a shadow of the player who excelled against Hapoel Galil Elyon, and may still be suffering the effects of his illness.

Regardless, Jerusalem's strategy of double-teaming Maccabi center

Rashard Griffith failed early as Griffith found cutting teammates or scored on his own, leading his club to an early 19-12 bulge. Nadav Henefeld also had a fine first half, at times running the offense from the top of the key, or scoring on his own.

When Radica Curic was whistled for his third foul a third of the way through the first half, Jerusalem's defense fell apart and Maccabi began scoring at will. Only two three-pointers by H. Waldman kept Jerusalem within 44-32 at half-time.

The second half was over before it began as Borko Radovic keyed a 10-0 Maccabi run to boost the lead to 54-32. When Radovic wasn't scoring, Maccabi's talented backcourt duo of Doron Sheffer and Oded Katash were filling up the hoop, with Sheffer also playing a big role in stymieing Jerusalem's guards on defense. A three-pointer by Randy White with 5:30 left made it 78-48, and two consecutive three-pointers by Derrick Sharp as time ran out made it downright embarrassing for Birnbaum's club, who owe their fans an explanation for dogging it last night.

Katash led Maccabi with 21 points, followed by Sheffer with 19. Curic had 16 for the losers, who played that way and appear to have as much chance of beating Maccabi in Tel Aviv Thursday night as the Batsheva troupe has of performing in Mea Shearim.

## Jerusalem 3000 Years

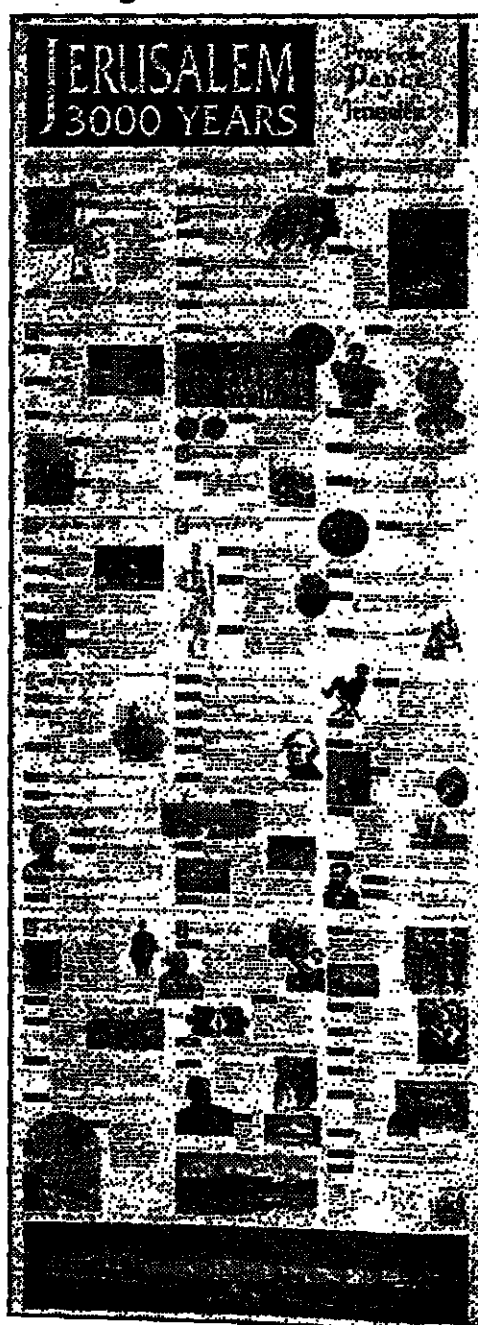
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## Sydney Swans lose first of season; St. Kilda keep up pace

MELBOURNE (AP) - Melbourne ended Sydney's perfect run in Australian Rules football yesterday while St. Kilda kept pace with the league leaders following a two-point comeback win over the West Coast Eagles.

Melbourne beat the Swans by 19 points, downing Sydney 12.8 (80) to 8.13 (61) and St. Kilda beat the Eagles 18.13 (121) to 18.11 (119). St. Kilda trailed the Eagles by 18 points at three-quarter time before rallying in the fourth.

Sydney, Melbourne, St. Kilda and the

Western Bulldogs, which beat Essendon on Saturday, share first place on the Australian Football League ladder with 5-1 records after six rounds.

In the other match yesterday, North Melbourne beat Adelaide 15.16 (106) to 15.12 (102).

On Saturday, captain Barry Stoneham celebrated his 200th game for Geelong as the Cats beat Hawthorn 13.12 (90) to 10.13 (73) while Collingwood, kicking the first five goals of the match, defeated Carlton 14.12 (96) to 9.13 (67).

The Bulldogs overcame Essendon's one-point margin at the three-quarter break to beat the Bombers 13.19 (97) to 13.11 (89). Port Adelaide had an easy 36-point win over Fremantle, beating the Dockers 13.18 to 9.6 (60).

On Friday, the Brisbane Lions won their first match of the season, defeating Richmond by 35 points in steady rain at the Gabba in Brisbane. The wet ball and greasy conditions washed away Richmond's height advantage, allowing the Lions to win 13.8 (86) to 7.9 (51).

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THE WRIGHT STUFF - Ian Wright showers Arsenal supporters with champagne as Highbury began celebrating an 11th league championship yesterday afternoon.

## Arsenal win Premiership

### Division 1: Middlesbrough promoted, Man City relegated

LONDON (Reuters) - Arsenal clinched the English premier league title for the 11th time yesterday, crushing relegation-threatened Everton 4-0 at their own Highbury ground for their 10th successive league win.

Two goals from Dutchman Marc Overmars, an own goal from Slaven Bilic and an 88th-minute strike by skipper Tony Adams helped the London team move seven points clear of last season's champions Manchester United with two matches to play.

Adams' late goal was the icing on the cake for a player who has been through some tough times during his career. The veteran captain, a reformed alcoholic, collected the trophy after the match.

Arsenal will now concentrate their efforts on completing the double when they meet Newcastle United in the FA Cup final at Wembley on May 16.

Their French coach Arsene Wenger made history by becoming the first overseas coach to win the title in 109 years of league football.

Arsenal went ahead in just the sixth minute when Bilic, under pressure from Adams, headed into his own net after a free kick from the right from Emmanuel Petit.

Overmars made it 2-0 in the 29th minute when he outran the Everton defence to shoot low under the body of Everton's Norwegian goalkeeper Thomas Myhr.

The Dutchman increased his lead in the 57th minute when Nicolas Anelka intercepted a header from Everton's Michael Ball to set Overmars away on another run which he finished with perfection.

The fourth goal came two minutes from time when Everton again lost possession in midfield and the ball was swept forward to Adams who fired home an unstoppable fierce shot from 12 meters.

It was a fitting end to a dramatic run-in for Arsenal who trailed United by 11 points just two months ago but who swept past them with a series of outstanding displays.

The only blot on an otherwise perfect and memorable afternoon for the north Londoners was an injury to Petit who was the victim of a two-footed tackle by Everton's Don Hutchison.

The incident was about the only mark of a woeful Everton made on the afternoon. The Liverpool team did not have a single shot on target and looked disorganised in every department.

Everton could not live with Arsenal's invention, pace and teamwork. They are now in danger of losing their place in the top division for the first time since 1954.

They can still save themselves if they beat Coventry at home next week in their last match and Bolton fail to beat Chelsea.

But on the form Everton showed yesterday they are favorites to go down with Barnsley and Crystal Palace. Yesterday's result also meant Tottenham and Wimbledon were safe from the drop.

Alun Armstrong and Craig Hignett each scored twice in a 16-minute spell in the second half against Oxford United yesterday to fire Middlesbrough back into the English premier league.

Middlesbrough won 4-1 to claim the second automatic promotion spot behind champions Nottingham Forest.

The victory ended a catalogue of disasters for Middlesbrough, who were relegated and lost in the finals of the FA Cup and League Cup last season and were beaten finalists in the League Cup final again this season.

The result was never in doubt after Armstrong had taken his tally of goals for the season to 22 with strikes in the 47th and 48th minutes. Hignett scored in the 57th and 63rd minutes.

The victory ended neighbors Sunderland's hopes of automatic promotion. They beat Swindon 2-1 away but their hopes of a swift return to the premier league now rest on the promotion playoffs.

Premier League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	36	23	9	4	68	28	78
Manchester U.	36	21	8	7	68	26	71
Liverpool	36	17	11	8	64	41	62
Chelsea	37	19	3	15	69	43	60
Leeds	36	17	7	12	56	42	58
Blackburn	37	15	10	12	56	52	55
Aston Villa	37	16	6	15	48	54	54
Leicester	37	13	14	10	48	37	53
Derby	37	15	7	15	51	49	52
West Ham	36	15	7	14	49	51	52
Coventry	37	12	15	10	45	51	51
Southampton	37	14	5	18	49	54	47
Newcastle	37	11	11	15	35	43	44
Sheff Wed	37	12	8	17	52	64	44
Tottenham	37	10	10	16	43	53	43
Wimbledon	37	10	13	14	33	43	43
Bolton	37	9	13	15	41	59	40
Everton	37	9	12	16	40	55	39
Barnsley	37	10	5	22	37	80	35
Crystal Palace	36	7	8	21	33	68	29

Middlesbrough's joy was in sharp contrast to the mood in the Manchester City camp.

City, European Cup Winners' Cup winners in 1970, trounced Stoke 5-2 away but a combination of results among the other relegation candidates condemned the high-profile club to life outside the top two divisions for the first time since they were formed more than a century ago.

Division One: Birmingham 0, Charlton 0; Bradford 1, Portsmouth 3; Huddersfield 0, Port Vale 4; Ipswich 3, Crewe 2; Middlesbrough 4, Oxford 1; Queens Park Rangers 0, Bury 1; Reading 0, Norwich 1; Stockport 1, Sheffield United 0; Stoke 2, Manchester City 5; Swindon 1, Sunderland 2; Tranmere 2; Wolverhampton 1; West Bromwich 1; Nottingham Forest 1.

Division One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottingham Forest	46	28	10	8	82	42	94
Middlesbrough	46	27	10	9	77	41	91
Sunderland	46	26	12	8	86	50	90
Charlton	46	26	10	10	80	49	88
Ipswich	46	23	14	9	77	43	83
Sheffield United	46	19	17	10	69	54	74
Birmingham	46	19	17	10	60	35	74
Stockport	46	19	8	19	71	69	65
Wolverhampton	46	18	11	17	57	53	65
West Brom	46	16	13	17	50	56	61
Crewe	46	18	5	23	58	65	59
Oxford United	46	16	10	20	60	64	58
Bradford	46	16	15	15	46	59	57
Tranmere	46	14	14	18	54	57	56
Harwich	46	14	13	19	52	69	55
Huddersfield	46	14	11	21	50	72	53
Bury	46	11	19	16	42	58	52
Swindon	46	14	10	22	42	72	52
Port Vale	46	13	10	23	56	66	49
Portsmouth	46	13	10	23	51	63	49
QPR	46	10	19	17	51	63	49
Manchester City	46	12	12	22	56	57	48
Stoke	46	11	13	22	44	74	44
Reading	46	11	9	26	39	78	42

## Justin Fashanu found dead after sexual assault charge

LONDON (Reuters) - Ex-soccer star Justin Fashanu, wanted in the US for an alleged sexual assault on a 17-year-old youth, has been found dead, a Metropolitan Police spokesman said yesterday.

Police sources said Fashanu's body was found hanging at around noon on Saturday in a lock-up garage under a railway arch in East London, and his death was being treated as suicide.

Police in the US state of Maryland said on Wednesday they were hunting the 37-year-old after charging him with sexual assault.

The much-travelled Fashanu, older brother of former England and Wimbledon player John Fashanu, played in the 1980s in the English top division with various clubs, including Nottingham Forest, before a knee injury hit his career.

He had spells in Scotland, Canada, New Zealand and Los Angeles before taking the job as coach to the newly-formed Maryland Mania soccer club earlier this year.

Police said Fashanu had disappeared after spending the night of March 24 drinking beer and smoking marijuana in his Maryland apartment with five other people.

One of those present, a 17-year-old high school drop-out from Columbia, Maryland, later told police that he fell asleep on the sofa but awoke the next morning in Fashanu's bed.

Police questioned Fashanu a day later. But when a warrant for his arrest was issued on April 3, police discovered that he had vanished.

Authorities had since been quietly trying to locate Fashanu.

The police, who believed he had left the country, said they were ready to seek extradition after notifying federal and international agencies of his disappearance.

Fashanu was charged with second-degree sexual assault, first-degree assault and second-degree

assault. Newspaper reports said the charges carried a possible jail term of 20 years.

Fashanu was always overshadowed in the soccer world by his brother but both men were dogged by controversy.

Justin was sacked by Scottish club Hearts in February 1994, a day after making claims in a Sunday newspaper.

Hearts said at the time that he was sacked for not attending training and not because of his private life.

John Fashanu, who played for Wimbledon and Aston Villa and went on to make a career as a television presenter and a fortune in business, was cleared of match-fixing charges in a high-profile court case last year which also involved goalkeepers Bruce Grobbelaar and Hans Segers.

The brothers were abandoned by their Nigerian father as youngsters and put into a children's home by their mother before being raised by foster parents.

## Jerusalem Half Marathon expected to be less of a headache for drivers

By HEATHER CHAIT

Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium will be a hive of activity this morning as the Sixth Jerusalem Half Marathon gets under way.

Some 4,000 runners will participate in the event, 600 of them will take part in the 21.1 kilometer race which begins at 10 a.m. with the 4.2km mini-marathon at 10.20 a.m. and the 2.1 km popular race at 10.30 a.m.

Organizers promise that this year's route will be less of a headache for the city's drivers with only one lane of traffic affected by the runners.

The route will proceed from the stadium along Golomb, Herzog, Noyot, Valley of the Cross, Sacher Park, Ruppert, the Knesset (where MKs will greet the runners), Sderot Herzl, Beit Hakerem, Ha'Azarim St., Jerusalem Forest, Holland Square, Borochov St., Tahon St., Golomb St., the Zoo and returning to the stadium where the closing ceremony will be held at 1 p.m.

## Knicks ice Heat

MIAMI (AP) - This was a knockout punch and a victory borne of revenge, all rolled into one haymaker of a game.

The New York Knicks took control early, withstood all the fight the Heat had left in them and cold-cooked Miami out of the playoffs with a 98-81 victory over the Heat yesterday in Game 5 of their first-round series.

The Knicks, who wanted to avenge the disastrous ending to the 1996-97 season in the same building where they sealed their own fate by leaving the bench in a Game 5 brawl, accomplished exactly what they set out to do. And now they're in the second round against the Indiana Pacers.

The victory made easier by the absence of Miami's Alonzo Mourning, who was suspended along with Larry Johnson and Chris Mills of the Knicks for a fight at the end of Game 4. But it was no walkover, either.

New York withstood a 21-3 run that turned a 20-point lead into a two-point game with 7:16 remaining in the fourth.

The Knicks answered back almost instantly with a 19-7 run that left Heat fans heading to the exits before the clock even ticked inside two minutes.

Houston scored 30 points, Starks scored 22, Charles Oakley had 18 and Charlie Ward hit a crucial 3-point shot that killed Miami's rally.

Ward also had 14 assists and five steals, and Buck Williams had 12 points and 14 rebounds as New York took advantage of Mourning's absence to dominate inside.

Tim Hardaway led Miami with 21 points, but he was not a factor for long stretches. The Heat was outrebounded 43-34 and shot just 14-for-25 at the line.

Utah beat Houston 84-70 to win their series 3-1. The Jazz now meet San Antonio in the second round.

Sonics 97, Timberwolves 84

In Seattle, Gary Payton scored 19 of his 29 points in the second half and the Seattle SuperSonics survived the first round of the NBA playoffs with a 97-84 victory over the seventh-seeded Minnesota Timberwolves on Saturday.

Upset by Denver in the first round in 1994 and by the Lakers in 1995, Seattle, which trailed 2-1 in this series, got 24 points from Hersey Hawkins and prevailed over the Wolves three games-to-



Miami's Jamal Mashburn (24) attempts to drive through the defensive pressure of New York's Charles Oakley in first-quarter action of their playoff game in Miami last night. (Reuters)

two. Payton and Hawkins also were the heroes of its Game 4 in Minneapolis on Thursday night.

The Sonics, the No. 2 seed in the West, will next play in the Western Conference semifinals the Los Angeles Lakers, a team they beat three of four times to win the Pacific Division during the regular season. The series opens here tonight and Wednesday night.

Anthony Peeler had 28 points for the Wolves, a ninth-year franchise in just its second playoff series.

With a barrage of 3-pointers in the first half, Minnesota had a 47-44 lead going into the third quarter, and the Sonics were worried that the Peeler-led Wolves would win at the Key Arena for the third time this season.

Payton split defenders Tom Hammond and Stephon Marbury to hit a 3-pointer as the third quarter ended, giving Seattle a 71-64 lead. The Sonics outscored Minnesota 10-2 in the final 2:53 of the period, with Payton accounting for six of the points.

Sam Perkins gave Seattle the lead for good at that point, making it 63-

62 with a short running hook shot in the key to start its run.

The Sonics opened the third period with four 3-pointers; three by Hawkins and one by Payton. Seattle made six of seven 3-point shots in the quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Hawkins helped keep the Wolves from the Sonics' door by scoring nine points, including a critical 3-pointer with 3:55 to go to give Seattle an 85-76 lead.

When Detlef Schrempf intercepted a Minnesota pass and 57.5 seconds left, Seattle led 95-82. Finally, the Sonics were able to breathe a sigh of relief.

Kevin Garnett and Marbury, the Wolves' 21-year-old stars, didn't have good games. Garnett and Marbury combined for 14 points and were 5-for-21 from the field.

They committed 15 turnovers, including 10 by Garnett to tie a franchise record.

Schrempf had 16 points and 11 rebounds for Seattle, while Sam Mitchell added 16 points and Terry Porter 14 for Minnesota.

## Beit She'an accused of throwing match against Betar

By OFER RONEN-ABELS

The Israel Football Association have taken the first step in what seems like a lengthy investigation regarding events which took place at Saturday's National League match between Hapoel Beit She'an and championship contenders Betar Jerusalem at Kiryat Eliezer.

The match ended as a 3-2 win for Jerusalem with the winner coming in the fourth minute of injury time.

This game had the potential of awarding champions Betar their second consecutive title but nobody had expected it to reach the front pages for all the wrong reasons. Yedioth Aharonot branded what happened both on and off the pitch a "Disgrace" while Maariv called it an "End of season sale" as many soccer fans both in the stadium and thousands who were watching the game live on TV saw some strange scenes which might put into question the integrity of football at the top level in Israel.

IFA Chairman Gavri Levy yesterday charged legal adviser Moshe Avivi with finding out what happened, although there was little time wasted when representatives from both clubs were summoned to the IFA's offices at the National Stadium. Referee Eyal Tzur will give his testimony later in the week.

Beit She'an's team manager Avi Levy said that his

team turned up to get a result. "Betar made a comeback and our players were exhausted and intimidated by all that was surrounding both them and the pitch."

"The blame for the lack of effort in the second half shouldn't be placed on our players but on whoever was in charge in delaying the game," he said.

Beit She'an already knew that they had nothing to fear after hearing of Beni Yehuda's and Hapoel Beersheba's losses.

A few incidents which took place on Saturday raised many eyebrows in the Kiryat Eliezer press box, including this writer's:

\* They started as soon as the game's kickoff was delayed despite the IFA's plan to start all the vital matches at the same time.

\* Eitan Tayeb's penalty was struck so high and wide that made you think he was trying to imitate England rugby kicker Rob Andrew.

\* And his team mates "through their fatigue" didn't run to celebrate Almagor Hazan's stunning 25-meter goal with only four minutes left on the clock. They looked like trying the hardest to award Betar a winner with their wretched defending.

Moshe Teomim, owner of Hapoel Tel Aviv said yesterday evening that a lot of things happened at Kiryat Eliezer but they were nothing to do with soccer. "A football game should be decided on the pitch and not in smoke-filled back rooms," he said.

## Graf pulls out of French Open, fears career end

BONN (Reuters) - Former world No. 1 Steffi Graf has pulled out of the French Open starting on May 25 and fears injury worries might force her to bring her prolific career to an end.

"I have pulled out of tournaments in Rome and Berlin because of an inflammation on my right ankle," Graf told the German weekly Focus in an interview to be released today.

"As it is today, I will not have enough time to get ready for the French Open, I have also given up the idea of playing in Paris," she added.

The seven-times Wimbledon champion has been out of action since pulling a hamstring during the Ever Cup in California in March. She had then only just returned from a nine-month lay-off following knee surgery.

"I have reached a point where I clearly see the end of my career because I have the feeling that I might not be able to carry on," the 28-year-old told Focus.

"I will give it one last try but if I see that I cannot bring some continuity to my training as well as my tournament schedule, I will stop straight away," she added.

## Jerusalem Eisenberg Open begins

The \$50,000 Eisenberg Jerusalem Open ATP tennis tournament begins at the capital's Israel Tennis Center courts in Katamon today.

Top seed among the 32-man draw is Peter Trnasek of Australia ranked at 128 in the world. He is followed by Germany's Alex Radulescu (156) and Eyal Erlich (177).

Play begins at 13:00 today with Africa's Neville Godwin taking on Israel's Nir Weigreen, Austrian Julian Knowle playing Australian Steven Randjelovic and Oren Motevassel (Israel) playing another Australian Grant Doyle.

Three of the four qualifiers to the main draw are Israeli, they are Andy Ram, Noam Okun and Yoni Erlich. The fourth was Austria's Knowle. Other singles matches today: David Nainkin (SA) v. Yoni Erlich; Stefano Pescosolido (Ita) v. Razvan Sabau (Rom). Noam Okun v. Alex Radulescu. (Ger).

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